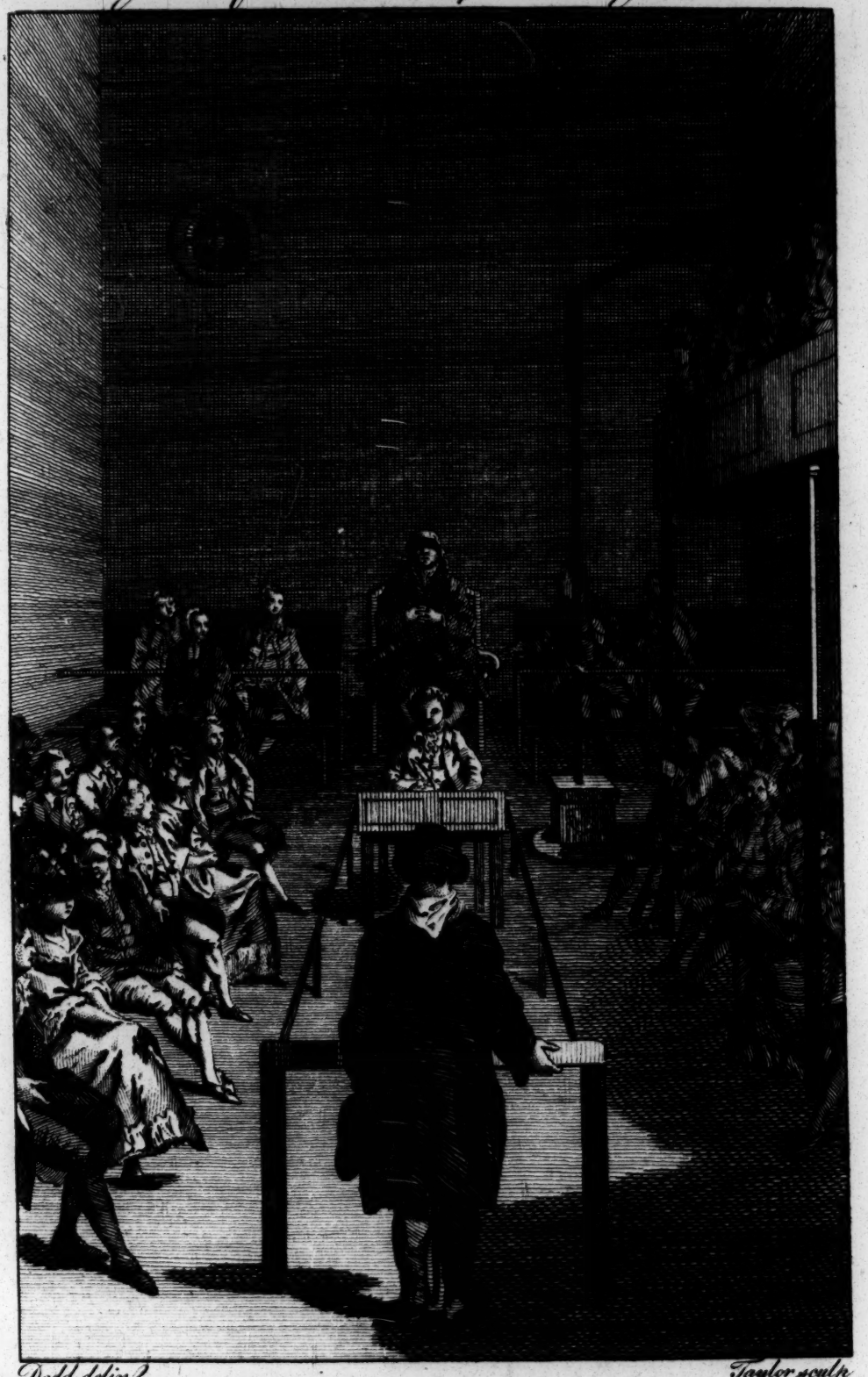
Engraved for The Malefactor's Register.



Dodd delin.

Taylor, sculp.

View of the **PUBLIC OFFICE** Bow Street, with Sir John Fielding presiding, & a Prisoner under examination

THE

MALEFACTOR's REGISTER;

OR,

New NEWGATE and TYBURN CALENDAR.

CONTAINING THE

AUTHENTIC LIVES, TRIALS, ACCOUNTS OF EXECUTIONS, DYING SPEECHES, AND OTHER CURIOUS PARTICULARS,

Relating to ALL the moſt notorious

VIOLATERS OF THE LAWS OF THEIR COUNTRY.

WHO HAVE

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NUMEROUS TRIALS in EXTRAORDINARY CASES, where the Parties have been ACQUITTED.

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BURGLARY,	HORSE-STEALING,	STREET-ROBBERY,
FELONY,	MURDER,	UNNATURAL CRIMES,
FORGERY,	PETIT-TREASON,	And various other
FOOTPAD-ROBBERY,	PIRACY,	OFFENCES, and
HIGHWAY-ROBBERY,	RAPES,	MISDEMEANORS.

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The Subjects vary, *and the* Work *is* New:
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Be timely Taught, and you'll not be *undone*.

VOL. III.

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22
57
JUN

THE

MALEFACTOR's REGISTER;

OR,

The NEWGATE and TYBURN CALENDAR.

Narrative of the ſingular Caſe of CHARLES DREW, who was hanged for the Murder of his Father.

THIS offender was the ſon of an attorney of great practice at Long-Melford in Suffolk; who, though a man of good fortune, was of ſo unaccountable a diſpoſition that he neglected the education of his ſon to ſuch a degree that the boy was brought up in the moſt aſtoniſhing degree of ignorance *; ſo that, though his perſon was agreeable, and his talents not of the inferior kind, there was no probability of his ever making a reſpectable figure in life.

Mr. Drew the elder quarrelled with, and lived ſeparate from his wife, and behaved in the moſt reſerved and unfriendly manner to his children,

* There is another book of this kind which ſays that Charles "received a liberal education;" but all the authentic accounts affirm the contrary; and agree that he was brought up in almoſt total ignorance.

who were five daughters, beſides the unhappy ſon who murdered him.

When the ſon arrived at years of maturity he became acquainted with one Elizabeth Boyer, who ſubmitted to his ſolicitations, but was a woman of ſo much art, that moſt people thought he would marry her; and when ſhe urged him to it, he ſaid, "Betſey, let us ſtay a little longer: it "will be worſe for us both if I do it now, for my "father will certainly diſinherit me:" to which ſhe replied "I wiſh ſomebody would ſhoot the old dog."

This diſcourſe was heard to paſs between them in the month of January, 1740, and Mr. Drew was found murdered in his houſe on the firſt of February following. On enquiry into the affair it was ſuſpected by many that Mr. Drew was ſhot with a gun which had been lent to his ſon by Mrs. Boyer; and though no proſecution was commenced againſt her, there was every reaſon to imagine that ſhe had been the chief inſtigator of his committing ſo atrocious a crime.

Charles having been to the aſſizes at Chelmsford, fell into company with ſome ſmugglers, among whom was one Humphreys, a hardened villain, calculated for the execution of any deſperate enterprize. With this man he held a conference; telling him that he would inform him of a ſcheme by which he might make his fortune, if he would meet him at Mrs. Boyer's lodgings.

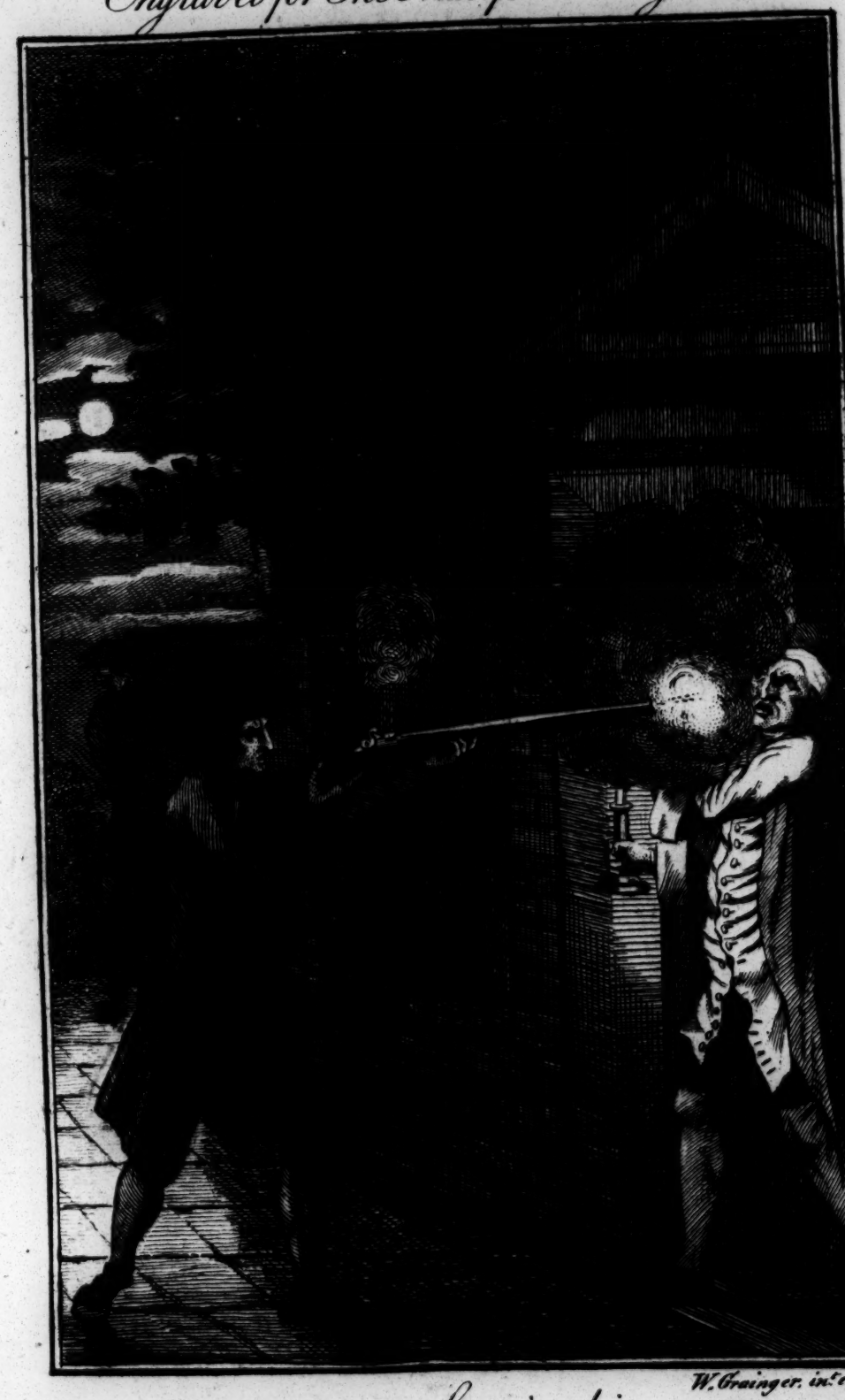
Humphreys accordingly met him; when Drew promiſed to ſettle two hundred pounds a year on him if he would murder his father; and likewiſe give him a conſiderable ſum in money. Humphreys hefitated ſome time: but at length conſenting to the horrid propoſal, they went together towards the houſe, having a gun loaded with ſlugs, about eleven at night on the 31ſt of January.

From

FA 4



Engraved for The Malefactor's Register.



W. Grainger. inv.t et fec.

CHARLES DREW *shooting his own* **FATHER**,
at Long-Melford, in Suffolk.

From the beſt accounts we have of this tranſaction, it ſeems as if it was agreed that young Drew was to ſtand at a diſtance, while Humphreys was to knock at the door, and aſk for the old man; and to ſhoot him when he came to ſpeak to him; but his courage failing him when he came near the ſpot, he threw down the gun, ſaying he would have no concern in the murder.

On this young Drew commanded him to keep ſilence on pain of death; and taking up the gun, went to the door, and when his father opened it, ſhot him dead on the ſpot.

Having committed this horrid parricide, he went away with Humphreys, to whom he ſaid, "The job is done;" on which Humphreys went to Dunmow in Eſſex, where he had appointed to meet ſome ſmugglers that night; and after that travelled to London.

An inqueſt being held on the body of the deceaſed; and Humphreys having heard that he was ſuſpected, he returned into the country, and was apprehended: but did not impeach Drew till ſome time afterwards, when the interception of ſome letters diſcovered the nature of the connection that had ſubſiſted between them.

Humphreys depoſed on the trial, that meeting the priſoner about a fortnight after the murder was committed, he aſked him if he was not concerned at the death of his father; to which he replied in the negative, ſaying, "If he had lived he would "have ruined the family." Humphreys likewiſe endeavoured to exculpate himſelf from having had any ſhare in the murder: but how far he is to be credited in this matter our readers will judge.

Young Drew going to London made application for the king's pardon to any perſon except

him

him who had actually murdered his father; in conſequence of which an advertiſement to that purpoſe was inſerted in the London Gazette, ſigned by the ſecretary of ſtate; and another advertiſement followed it, in which Drew himſelf offered a reward of a hundred pounds, on conviction of the murderer. This procedure appears evidently to have been intended to take off all ſuſpicion from himſelf, though he meant not to fix it on Humphreys.

This latter being apprehended on ſuſpicion, gave ſuch an indifferent account of the tranſaction, that he was ordered to be kept in cuſtody: and while he was in priſon Drew ſent him twenty pounds, with the promiſe of a hundred more.

After Humphreys was committed, the ſuſpicion of his guilt grew ſtronger, and was corroborated by ſeveral informations. This gave Drew great uneaſineſs: he took the utmoſt pains to ſuppreſs all farther informations, and even to deſtroy the credibility of thoſe already made. He publicly declared that Humphreys was not the man who ſhot his father, and threatened to proſecute the officer who apprehended him.

In the mean time Drew reſided in London, where he changed his name to that of Roberts, and correſponded with Humphreys, who had aſſumed the name of John Smith. Some of the letters falling into the hands of Timothy Drew, Eſq. a nameſake only, he went to London in ſearch of the murderer; and after repeated enquiries, was told that he lodged in Sheer-Lane, whither he went, and enquired for him by the name of Roberts.

The people of the houſe ſaid that they had no lodgers: but the gentleman, who had a magiſtrate's warrant for apprehending the offender, inſiſted

ſiſted on ſearching the houſe; but the ſearch was made in vain.

On this he went to ſeveral bagnios, and at length to Eaſtmead's in Leiceſter-Fields, where he enquired for Mr. Roberts. It ſhould ſeem that Drew had given orders to be denied; for the landlord ſaid that all the gentlemen who had lodged there the preceding night were gone. Mr. Timothy Drew obſerving the landlord whiſper to one of the waiters, ſuſpected the truth of this declaration, called for a pint of wine, and aſked the waiter to drink with him.

After ſome converſation, he raiſed his voice, and in a poſitive manner declared that he knew Mr. Roberts was in the houſe, but that his real name was Charles Drew, and that he had murdered his father; and he threatened to have all the people in the houſe apprehended for concealing a murderer.

The authoritative manner in which he ſpoke induced the waiter to confeſs that the gentleman was in the houſe; and the unwelcome viſitor being introduced to him, ſaid that he had a warrant to apprehend him, and take him before Juſtice De Veil, on a charge of having murdered his father.

Hereupon he was conducted to the houſe of the above-mentioned magiſtrate; and, after an examination of above ſix hours, was committed to Newgate under a ſtrong guard.

During his reſidence in the priſon he offered, and actually gave, to Jonathan Keate, the turnkey, a bond of half his fortune, on the condition of permitting him to eſcape, and accompanying him to France: and for the farther ſecurity of Keate, he executed a bond to him for the payment of a thouſand pounds.

The

The turnkey ſeemed to comply, and the time was fixed on for their departure; but the man having informed Mr. Akerman, the keeper, of the progreſs of the affair, Drew was removed into the old condemned-hold, where a guard was placed over him night and day.

On the approach of the aſſizes, he was ſent to the goal of St. Edmond's-Bury; and Humphreys being admitted an evidence, Drew was convicted after a trial of ſeveral hours.

After conviction he ſeemed not to have a proper ſenſe of the enormity of the crime of which he had been guilty; and would have attributed it to his father's ill treatment of him. He ſaid that his father denied him neceſſary money for his expences; and his having refuſed to make over an eſtate to him, was the firſt inſtigation to his committing the horrid crime.

He was viſited by his ſiſters, who carefully avoided reflecting on him; and did all in their power to conſole him in his unhappy ſituation.

He was hanged near St. Edmund's-Bury, on the 9th of April, 1740, amidſt the greateſt crowd of ſpectators that were almoſt ever aſſembled on ſuch a melancholly occaſion in that part of the country.

He ſeemed to part with life with evident ſigns of reluctance, begging the clergyman who attended him to continue the devotions to the laſt poſſible moment. This man ſuffered in the 25th year of his age.

The crime of murder is in itſelf ſo horrid, that it requires no aggravation: but that of parricide is of the worſt ſpecies of murder. The deſtruction of thoſe from whom, under God, we have immediately derived our being, has ſomething in it ſo ſhocking to humanity, that one would think it impoſſible that it ſhould ever be committed.

Some

Some of the nations of antiquity held it to be an abſolute impoſſibility; and for that reaſon provided no laws for its puniſhment: but that it ſhould prevail in a *chriſtian* country is truly aſtoniſhing.

May the readers of this work be impreſſed with a proper ſenſe of the obligation they owe to the parental character; ſo that it may be unneceſſary to repeat to them that great leſſon of duty, HONOUR thy FATHER and thy MOTHER!

Particulars reſpecting ELIZABETH BRANCH, and MARY BRANCH her Daughter, who were hanged for the Murder of JANE BUTTERSWORTH.

PHILIPS-NORTON, in Somerſetſhire, gave birth to the elder Mrs. Branch, who was diſtinguiſhed from her childhood by the cruelty of her diſpoſition, which encreaſed with her encreaſing years, and frequently diſcovered itſelf on various occaſions, and particularly in fomenting diviſions among her father's ſervants, to render whom unhappy appeared to be one of the greateſt pleaſures of her life.

Her parents obſerving with regret this ferocity of temper, told her that ſhe would never get a huſband unleſs ſhe changed her conduct. This ſeemed for a while to have ſome influence on her, which gave great ſatisfaction to her parents; but it will appear from the following narrative that this influence was not laſting.

Being addreſſed by a gentleman-farmer, named Branch, a marriage took place; but the huſband ſoon found what an unfortunate choice he had made;

made; for his wife no ſooner came into poſſeſſion of her matrimonial power, than ſhe began to exerciſe her tyranny on her ſervants, whom ſhe treated with undeſerved, and unaccountable cruelty, frequently denying them the common neceſſaries of life, and ſometimes turning them out of doors at night, in the midſt of winter: but their wages in theſe caſes were ſent them by Mr. Branch, who was as remarkable for his humanity and juſtice, as his wife for the oppoſite qualities. Mary Branch, the daughter, was an exact reſemblance of her mother in every part of her diabolical temper.

Mr. Branch dying, and leaving an eſtate of about three hundred pounds a year, he was no ſooner buried than all the ſervants quitted the family, determined not to live with ſo tyrannical a miſtreſs; and her character became ſo notorious that ſhe could obtain no ſervants but poor creatures who were put out by the pariſh, or caſual vagrants who ſtrolled the country.

It is needleſs to mention the particulars of the cruelties of this inhuman mother and daughter to their other ſervants; at whom they uſed to throw plates, knives and forks, on any offence, real or ſuppoſed: we ſhall therefore proceed to an account of their trial and execution for the murder of Jane Butterſworth, a poor girl who had been placed with them by the pariſh officers.

At the aſſizes held at Taunton in Somerſetſhire, in March 1740, Elizabeth Branch and Mary her daughter, were indicted for the wilful murder of Jane Butterſworth; when the principal evidence againſt them was in ſubſtance as follows:

Ann Somers, the dairy-maid, depoſed that the deceaſed having been ſent for ſome yeaſt, and ſtay-

ſtaying longer than was neceſſary, excuſed herſelf to her old miſtreſs on her return, by telling a lie; on which the daughter ſtruck her violently on the head with her fiſt, and pinched her ears. Then both of them threw her on the ground, and the daughter kneeled on her neck, while the mother whipped her with twigs till the blood ran on the ground, and the daughter taking off one of the girl's ſhoes, beat her with it in a cruel manner. The deceaſed cried for mercy, and, after ſome ſtruggles, ran into the parlour, whither they followed her, and beat her with broomſticks till ſhe fell down ſenſeleſs, after which the daughter threw a pail of water on her, and uſed her with other circumſtances of cruelty too groſs to mention.

Somers now went out to milk her cows, and on her return, at the expiration of half an hour, found her miſtreſs ſitting by the fire, and the girl lying dead on the floor: but ſhe obſerved that a clean cap had been put on her head ſince ſhe went out; and that the blood had ran through it.

Saying ſhe believed the girl was dead, the old miſtreſs gave her abuſive language: and the deceaſed being put to bed, Somers was ordered to lie with her; which ſhe was obliged to comply with, in the fear of being treated in a manner equally cruel. Somers was not ſuffered to go out on the following day; and at night the body was privately buried.

This tranſaction, added to the character of the miſtreſſes, having raiſed a ſuſpicion in the neighbourhood, a warrant was iſſued by the coroner to take up the body, and an inqueſt being made into the cauſe of the girl's death, Mr. Salmon, a ſurgeon, declared that ſhe had received ſeveral wounds, almoſt any one of which would have proved mortal.

The defence made by the priſoners on their trial was that the proſecution was malicious; for that the deceaſed had been ſubject to fits, in one of which ſhe fell down, and received the bruiſes which occaſioned her death: but bringing no proofs in ſupport of this allegation, the jury found them guilty, and they were ſentenced to die.

After conviction they entertained great hopes of a pardon; and preſented a petition to the judge; but all the favour they could obtain was a reſpite for five weeks, in conſideration that Mrs. Branch might have ſome temporal affairs to ſettle.

The mother appeared for ſome time little concerned under her misfortunes; but the daughter lamented her unhappy fate, and begged the prayers of every one whom ſhe ſaw.

A ſermon was preached to them on the night before their execution; which ſeemed to have a great effect on the mother, who now began ſeriouſly to reflect on her approaching exit; and both of them made due preparation for death.

As the country people were violently enraged againſt them, they were conducted to the place of execution between three and four in the morning, attended only by the goaler and about half a dozen people, leſt they ſhould have been torn in pieces.

When they came to the ſpot, it was found that the gibbet had been cut down; on which a carpenter was ſent for, who immediately put up another; and they were executed before ſix o'clock, to the diſappointment of thouſands of people, who had come from all parts of the country, to witneſs the exit of two ſuch unworthy wretches.

They were hanged at Ivelcheſter in Somerſetſhire, on the 3d of May, 1740.

Juſt

Juſt before they were turned off Mrs. Branch made the following ſpeech:

" Good people,

YOU who are maſters and miſtreſſes of families, to you I ſpeak in a more particular manner. Let me adviſe that you never harbour cruel, baſe and mean thoughts of your ſervants, as that they are your ſlaves and drudges, and that any ſort of uſage, be it ever ſo bad, is good enough for them. Theſe, and ſuch like, were the thoughts that made me uſe my ſervants as ſlaves, vagabonds and thieves; it was theſe that made me ſpurn at and deſpiſe them, and led me on from one degree of cruelty to another.

Keep your paſſions within due bounds; let them not get the maſtery over you, leſt they bring you to this ignoble end. I am fully puniſhed for all my ſeverities; and it is true, I did ſtrike my maid, but not with a deſign to kill her; and ſo far I think the ſentence now about to be executed upon me is unjuſt; but the Lord forgive my proſecutors, and all thoſe who have maliciouſly and falſly ſworn againſt me.

Another caution I would give to you, who are parents, namely, to ſuppreſs in your children the firſt appearance of cruelty and barbarity. Nothing grieves me ſo much under this dreadful ſhock, as that I have by my example, and by my commands, made my daughter guilty with me, of the ſame follies, cruelties and barbarities, and thereby have involved her in the ſame puniſhment with myſelf.

I declare I had no deſign of killing the deceaſed, as the Lord is my judge, and before whom I muſt ſhortly appear. I beg of you to pray for me

me unto God, that my ſins may be forgiven me, and that I may be received to mercy."

After this the daughter ſpoke theſe few words:

"Good people, pity my unhappy caſe, who, while young, was trained up in the paths of cruelty and barbarity; and let all preſent take warning by my unhappy end, ſo as to avoid the like crimes. You ſee I am cut off in the prime of life, in the midſt of my days. Good people pray for me."

Nothing need be ſaid in aggravation of a crime ſo enormous as that for which theſe guilty wretches ſuffered. Cruelty in any caſe is inexcuſable: but cruelty to the poor, the helpleſs, the unfriended, is doubly ſhocking to all the feelings of humanity.

The little care which is taken in placing out the poor children from a pariſh workhouſe is an object of ſerious regret. Thoſe who have not relations capable of providing for them, are by that circumſtance ſtill more the objects of the public benificence; and though the laws have enjoined that proper regard ſhould be had to them, yet ſuch is the avarice, or ſuch the thoughtleſsneſs by which too many are actuated, that thoſe who have the utmoſt title to our compaſſion experience the leaſt of it.

We hope, however, that the time will come, when the laws of humanity will be deemed to have at leaſt equal force with the laws of the land; and that the ſubjects of theſe united kingdoms will conſider it as their higheſt honour to prove that they are likewiſe ſubject to the mild and benificent doctrines of chriſtianity!

The

The very ſingular Life and Adventures of GILBERT LANGLEY, who was capitally convicted for a Highway-Robbery; but tranſported.

THE father of Langley was a goldſmith in London, of the Roman Catholic perſuaſion; who ſent his ſon to the ſeat of his grandfather in Derbyſhire, when he was only three years of age.

Having continued in this ſituation four years, his mother's anxiety induced her to fetch him home, ſoon after which he was entered in the ſchool of the Charter-houſe, where he ſoon became a tolerably good claſſical ſcholar.

The father now wiſhed to ſend his ſon abroad for farther education, and that he might not fail of being brought up a ſtrict Catholic; but this was warmly oppoſed by the mother, through tenderneſs to her child: but her death ſoon left the father to act as he pleaſed.

The Prior of the Benedictine convent at Douay being in London, Langley's father agreed for his board and education, and committed him to the care of his new maſter, with whom he proceeded to Dover, ſailed for Calais, and travelled thence to St. Omers, and on the following day reached Douay, where young Langley was examined by the Prior and fellows of the college, and admitted of the ſchool.

At the end of three years he became a tolerable maſter of the French language, excluſive of his other literary acquirements; ſo that, at the Chriſtmas following, he was choſen king of the claſs, which is a diſtinction beſtowed on one of the beſt ſcholars, whoſe buſineſs it is to regulate the public entertainments of the ſchool.

It is the cuſtom at Douay for officers to attend at the gates of the town, to detect any perſons bringing in contraband liquors, becauſe the merchants of the place pay a large duty on them, which duty is annually farmed by the higheſt bidder.

During the Chriſtmas holidays Langley and three of his ſchool-fellows quitted the town, to purchaſe a ſmall quantity of brandy at an under price; but being obſerved by a ſoldier, who ſaw their bottles filled, he informed the officers of the affair; the conſequence of which was that the young gentlemen were ſtopped, and the liquor found, hid under their caſſocks. They offered money for their releaſe; but it was refuſed, and they were conducted to the houſe of the Farmer-general.

At the inſtant of their arrival two Franciſcan Friars ſeeing them, ſaid it was illegal to take ſtudents before the civil magiſtrate, becauſe the ſuperior of their own college was accountable for their conduct.

Hereupon they were taken home to the Prior; and the Farmer-General making his demand of the cuſtomary fine, the Prior thought it extravagant, and refuſed to pay it: but at length the matter was ſettled by arbitration.

In the Catholic colleges the ſtudents live in a very meagre manner during the ſeaſon of Lent, having little to ſubſiſt on but bread and ſour wine; a circumſtance that frequently tempts them to ſupply their wants by acts of irregularity.

At this ſeaſon Langley, and five of his companions, oppreſſed by the calls of hunger, determined to make an attack on the kitchen: but at the inſtant they had forced open the door, they were overheard by the ſervants, the conſequence of

of which was that many furious blows were exchanged by the contending parties.

On the following day the delinquents were ſummoned to attend the Prior, who was ſo incenſed at this outrage againſt the good order of the ſociety, that he declared they ſhould be expelled as ſoon as a conſiſtory of the Monks could be held.

But when the conſiſtory aſſembled, they reſolved to pardon all the offenders on acknowledging their faults, and promiſing not to renew them, except one, named Brown, who had twice knocked down the ſheomaker of the college, becauſe he had called out to alarm the Prior.

The young gentlemen, chagrined at loſing their aſſociate, determined to be revenged on ſome one, at leaſt, of the ſervants who had given evidence againſt them; and after revolving many ſchemes, they determined that the man who lighted the fires ſhould be the object of their vengeance, becauſe he had ſtruck ſeveral of them during the rencounter.

This being reſolved on, they diſguiſed themſelves, and went to a wood-houſe adjacent to the college, and being previouſly provided with rods, they waited till the man came with his wheel-barrow to fetch wood, when one of them going behind him, threw a cloak over his head, which being immediately tied round his neck, the reſt ſtripped him, and flogged him in the moſt ſevere manner, while he in vain called for aſſiſtance, but was unheard; as our heroes had taken previous care to ſhut the door of the wood-houſe.

The flagellation was juſt ended when the bell rung for the ſtudents to attend their evening exerciſe; on which they left the unhappy victim

of their revenge, and repaired to the public hall.

In the mean time the poor ſufferer ran into the Cloyſters, exclaiming, "Le Diable! Le Diable!" as if he had really thought the devil had tormented him: and hence he ran to the kitchen, where he recounted the adventure to his fellow-ſervants, who dreſſed his wounds, carried him to bed, and gave him ſomething to nouriſh him.

A ſuſpicion ariſing that the ſtudents had been the authors of this calamity to the poor fellow, the ſervants communicated the circumſtances of it to the Prior, who promiſed his endeavours to find out and puniſh the delinquents: and with this view went into the hall, with a look at once penetrating and indignant: but the young gentlemen having bound themſelves to ſecreſy by an oath, no diſcovery could be made.

Young Langley having diſtinguiſhed himſelf by his attention to literature for the ſpace of two years, the Monks began to conſider him as one who would make a valuable acquiſition to their ſociety; for which reaſon they treated him with ſingular reſpect; and at length prevailed upon him to agree to enter into their fraternity, if his father's conſent could be obtained.

As Langley was in no want of money, he frequently went into the town, to habituate himſelf to the manners of the people, and to obſerve their cuſtoms. Thurſday being a holiday, he and one of his ſchool-fellows named Meynel, aſked the Prior permiſſion to walk on the ramparts, which being denied, they went out without leave, and repairing to a tavern, drank wine till they were fairly inebriated.

In this condition they went to the ramparts, where having been for ſome time the laughing-

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ſtock of the company, they went home to bed. Being miſſed at evening prayers, ſome of the other ſtudents apologized for their abſence, by ſaying they were ill; and the excuſe was very readily admitted: but in a few days afterwards a gentleman called on the Prior, and told him what a ridiculous figure his ſtudents had made on the ramparts.

Incenſed at this violation of their duty, the Prior ſent for them to his chamber, and gave orders that they ſhould be flogged with great ſeverity. This indignity had ſuch an effect on the mind of Langley, that he grew reſerved and moroſe, and would have declined all his ſtudies, but that one of the Monks, called Father Howard, reſtored him to his good humour by his indulgent treatment, and perſuaded him to pay his uſual attention to literature.

Father Howard's conſiderate conduct had ſuch an effect on Langley, that he ſpent the greater part of his time with that gentleman, who inſtructed him in the principles of logic, and was about to initiate him in thoſe of philoſophy, when his father wrote a letter, requiring him to return to his native country.

The ſociety being unwilling to loſe one whom they thought would become a valuable member, the Prior wrote to England, requeſting that the youth might be permitted to compleat his education; but the father inſiſted on his return.

Hereupon the young gentleman left the College, and proceeding by the way of St. Omer's, reached Calais in two days. As the wind was contrary, it was ſome days longer before the company embarked for England, when, inſtead of putting into Dover, the veſſel came round to the

Thames, and the paſſengers were landed at Graveſend.

Langley having ſpent all his money at Calais, now affected an air of unconcern, ſaying that he had no Engliſh money in his poſſeſſion, from his having been ſo long abroad; on which one of the company lent him money, and on the following day he arrived at his father's houſe in London.

When he had repoſed himſelf ſome days after his journey, the father deſired him to make choice of ſome profeſſion; on which he mentioned his inclination to ſtudy phyſic or law; but the old gentleman, who had no good opinion of either of theſe profeſſions, perſuaded him to follow his own trade of a goldſmith.

For the preſent, however, he was placed at an academy, in Chancery-lane, that he might be inſtructed in thoſe branches of knowledge requiſite for a tradeſman: but becoming acquainted with ſome young gentlemen of the law, he found that his father's allowance of pocket-money was inſufficient for his uſe; and being unwilling that his new acquaintance ſhould think that he was deficient in caſh, he purloined ſmall ſums from a drawer in his father's ſhop, and when he did not find any money there, ſtole ſome pieces of broken gold, which he diſpoſed of to the Jews.

Mr. Langley the elder having ſent his ſon with ſome plate to the houſe of a gentleman in Groſvenor-ſquare, the youth ſaw a very beautiful woman go into a ſhop oppoſite a public-houſe; on which he went into the latter, and enquiring after her, found ſhe had gone to her own lodgings. Aſcertained in this, he delivered his plate, and formed a reſolution of viſiting the lady on the Sunday following.

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When the Sunday came the old gentleman went out, and, as the ſon imagined, to ſmoke his pipe at an adjacent public-houſe; and in the mean time the ſon ſtole ſeven guineas from three different bags, that his father might not diſcover the robbery, and immediately repaired to the lodgings of the lady whom he had ſeen.

From her lodgings they went to a tavern, where they continued till the following day, having no idea of a detection: but it happened that Mr. Langley, ſenior, inſtead of going to the public-houſe as uſual, watched the ſon to the tavern above-mentioned.

On the following day the father interrogated the youth reſpecting his preceding conduct; and particularly aſked where he had been the day before. The young fellow ſaid he had been at church, where he met with ſome acquaintance, who prevailed on him to go to a tavern.

The father, knowing the falſehood of this tale, corrected his ſon in a ſevere manner, and forbad him to dine at his table till his conduct ſhould be reformed. Thus obliged to aſſociate with the ſervants, young Langley became ſoon too intimate with the kitchen-maid, and robbed his father to buy ſuch things as he thought would be acceptable to her.

Among other things he purchaſed her a pair of ſhoes laced with gold, which he was preſenting to her in the parlour, at the very moment that his father knocked at the door. The girl inſtantly quitted the room; but the old gentleman interrogating the ſon reſpecting the ſhoes, the latter averred that a lady who ſaid ſhe had bought them in the neighbourhood, deſired leave to depoſit them at their houſe till the following day.

After this the father permitted the ſon to dine with him as uſual; but it was not long before he catched him in a too intimate connection with the maid-ſervant in the kitchen; on which the girl was diſmiſſed from her ſervice, and Mr. Langley threatened to reprobate his ſon, unleſs he would reform his conduct.

A middle-aged woman of grave appearance was now hired as a ſervant; but the evil complained of was far from being cured, as an intimacy between her and the young gentleman was ſoon diſcovered by the father.

It was not long after the ſervant-girl abovementioned had been diſcharged before ſhe ſwore herſelf pregnant by the ſon; on which he was taken into cuſtody by a warrant, the conſequence of which was that the father paid fifteen pounds to compromiſe the affair; after which he received the ſon to his favour, and forgave all the errors of his former conduct.

The death of the old gentleman put his ſon in poſſeſſion of a conſiderable fortune, excluſive of a ſettled good trade; and for the firſt year he applied himſelf ſo cloſely to buſineſs that he made a neat profit of ſeven hundred pounds: but he did not long continue this courſe of induſtry; for having formerly made connections with women of ill fame, particularly in the purlieus of Drury-Lane, he now renewed his viſits to thoſe wretched victims to, and puniſhers of, the vices of men.

A man of genteel appearance, named Gray, having ordered plate of Langley to the amount of a hundred pounds, invited him to the tavern to drink. In the courſe of the converſation the ſtranger ſaid he had dealt with his late father, and would introduce him to a lady who had thirty thou-

thouſand pounds to her fortune. This was only a ſcheme to defraud Langley, who delivered the plate, and took a draught for the money on a vintner in Bartholomew-Cloſe; but when he went to demand payment the vintner was removed.

On the following day the vintner's wife went to Langley, and informed him that Gray had defrauded her huſband of four hundred and fifty pounds; and Langley being of an humane diſpoſition, intereſted himſelf ſo far in behalf of the unfortunate man, that a letter of licence for three years was granted him by his creditors.

Langley now took out an action againſt Gray, but was not able to find him; when one day he was accoſted by a man in Fleet Street, who aſked him to ſtep into a public-houſe, and he would tell him where he ſhould meet with the defrauder. Langley complying with the propoſal, the ſtranger ſaid he would produce Gray within an hour, if the other would give him a guinea; which being done, the ſtranger went out, but returned no more.

Exaſperated by this circumſtance, which ſeems to have been a contrivance of one of Gray's accomplices, Mr. Langley employed an attorney, who ſoon found the delinquent, againſt whom an action was taken out, in conſequence of which he was confined ſeveral years in the Marſhalſea.

Langley now became a ſportſman on the turf at Newmarket, under the inſtructions of a vintner in Holborn, whoſe neice entered into his ſervice; but who ſoon fell a victim to his unbounded paſſion for the ſex.

Langley becoming acquainted with ſome young fellows in the Temple, three of them, and four women of the town, went with him to Greenwich, where they gave the ladies the ſlip, and took

took a boat to London; but the women purſuing them, overtook them in the river, and attempting to board their boat, afforded great diverſion to the ſpectators: but our adventurers watermen rowing hard, they reached the Temple, and concealed themſelves in one of the chambers, a few minutes before the ladies landed.

Soon after this Langley made another excurſion to Greenwich to viſit a lady and gentleman, who having a remarkably handſome ſervant-maid, our adventurer found means to ſeduce her; the conſequence of which was that ſhe became pregnant, and made repeated application to him for ſupport: whereupon he gave her a conſiderable ſum of money, and heard no more of her from that period.

Thus living in a continual round of diſſipation, his friends recommended matrimony as the moſt likely ſtep to reclaim him; in conſequence of which he married a young lady named Brown, with a handſome fortune.

He had not been long married before he determined to borrow all the caſh and jewels he could, and decamp with the property. As he had the reputation of being in ample circumſtances, he found no difficulty in getting credit for many articles of value, with which he and his wife embarked for Holland: and in the mean time his creditors took out a commiſſion of bankruptcy againſt him.

When Langley came to Rotterdam, he applied to the States General for a protection, in apprehenſion of being purſued by his creditors: but the States not being then ſitting, the creditors made application to Lord Cheſterfield, then ambaſſador at the Hague, which fruſtrated his intention.

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In the interim his creditors found out his lodgings in a village near Rotterdam; but he eluded their ſearch, leaving his wife, with four hundred pounds, in the care of a friend; but did not tell her the place of his retreat, to prevent any poſſibility of a diſcovery.

After ſkulking from place to place, he went back to Rotterdam, and ſurrendered to his creditors; but found that his wife was gone with an Engliſh captain to Antwerp. On his arrival in England he was examined before the commiſſioners, and treated with the accuſtomary lenity ſhewn to unfortunate tradeſmen in ſuch circumſtances.

After his affairs were adjuſted he ſailed to Barbadoes, where he ſoon contracted ſo many debts that he was glad to take his paſſage to Port-Royal in Jamaica: and ſoon after his arrival there he went to viſit a planter at ſome diſtance, who would have engaged him as his clerk.

Langley told the planter that he owed twenty dollars at Port Royal for which he had left his cheſt as a ſecurity. The gentleman inſtantly giving him the money to redeem it, he went to Port-Royal, aſſumed the name of Engleſield, embarked on board a man of war as midſhipman, and came to England, where the ſhip was paid off at the expiration of ſix months.

Taking lodgings at Plymouth, he paid his addreſſes to a young lady, whom he might have married with the conſent of her father: but being then in an ill ſtate of health, he pretended to have received a ſummons from his friends in London, to repair immediately to that city; on an important affair; but that, as ſoon as it was adjuſted, he would return, and conclude the marriage.

On his arrival in town he ſent for a man who had formerly lived with his father, from whom he learnt that the creditors had not made any dividend under the bankruptcy, and were engaged in a law-ſuit reſpecting a part of the property. This faithful old ſervant of his father told him that his wife had retired to the north of England; and giving him money, recommended it to him to lodge privately in Southwark.

This advice he followed; and kept himſelf retire for ſome time; but paſſing through Cheapſide, he was arreſted, and conducted to the Poultry Compter, where he continued many months, during which he was ſupported by the benevolence of the old ſervant above-mentioned. While in the compter he made ſome very bad connections; and being concerned with ſome of the priſoners in an attempt to eſcape, he was removed to Newgate, as a place of greater ſecurity.

While in this priſon he fell ill of a diſorder which threatened his life; whereupon his friends diſcharged the debt for which he had been arreſted, and removed him to lodgings, where he ſoon recovered his health.

Soon afterwards he got recommended to a captain in the Levant trade, with whom he was to have ſailed; but an unhappy attachment to a woman of ill fame prevented his being ready to make the voyage.

Langley's friends were chagrined at this freſh inſtance of his imprudence; and ſoon afterwards he was arreſted, and carried to a ſpunging-houſe, where he attempted to diſpatch himſelf by a halter; but the rope breaking, he eſcaped with life. The bailiff and his wife happening to be now abſent, and only two maid-ſervants in the houſe,

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Langley made them both drunk, and effecting his eſcape, croſſed the water into the Borough, where he worked ſome time with a colour-grinder.

Diſguſted with a life attended with ſo much labour, he contracted with the captain of a Jamaica ſhip, who took him to that iſland on the condition of ſelling him as a ſlave; and, on his arrival, ſold him to Colonel Hill, who employed him to educate his children: but Langley ſoon running from his employer, went on board a ſhip bound to England; but being impreſſed on his arrival in the Downs, was put on board a man of war, and carried round to Plymouth.

Langley and another man now deſerting from the ſhip, ſtrolled to London, and took up their reſidence in a two-penny lodging: but as Langley now found no friends to ſupport him, he contracted with one of thoſe perſons called crimps, who uſed to agree with unhappy people to go as ſlaves to the colonies. His contract was to ſail to Penſylvania; but while the ſhip lay in the Thames, he and a weaver from Spitalfields made their eſcape, and travelling to Canterbury, paſſed themſelves as Proteſtant refugees.

Going hence to Dover, they embarked for Calais; and after ſome weeks reſidence in that place, Langley ſailed to Liſbon, where he remained only a ſhort time before he contracted debts which obliged him to ſeek another reſidence; wherefore he went to Malaga in Spain.

His poverty was now extreme; and while he ſat melancholy one day by the ſea-ſide, ſome prieſts aſked him from what country he came. He anſwered in Latin "From England."

Hereupon they conducted him to a convent, relieved his diſtreſſes, and then began to inſtruct him in the principles of the Roman Catholic re-

ligion. Langley diſguiſed his ſentiments; and after being apparently made a convert, was recommended as a page to a Spaniſh lady of diſtinction.

In this ſituation he continued ſeveral months; but having an affair of gallantry with the neice to the old lady, he was compelled to make a precipitate retreat from a window, and ſhelter himſelf in the houſe of an Iriſh taylor, who procured a paſſage for him to Gibraltar in the firſt ſhip that ſailed.

On his arrival at Gibraltar, he would have entered into the army; but being refuſed, becauſe he was not tall enough, his diſtreſs compelled him to work as a labourer, in repairing the barracks; but he ſoon quitted this buſineſs, and officiated as a waiter in the Tennis-Court belonging to the garriſon: but it being intimated to the governor that he was a ſpy, he was lodged in a dungeon, where he remained more than a fortnight.

On obtaining his diſcharge, he embarked on board a Spaniſh veſſel bound to Barbary with corn: and on his return to Spain applied to the monks of a convent, who charitably relieved him, and the prior agreed to take him a voyage to Santa Cruz: but having no great proſpect of pecuniary advantage in this way of life, he went to Oratava, where ſome Engliſh merchants contributed to his ſupport: but he ſoon ſailed to Genoa, as he could get no ſettled employ at Oratava.

From Genoa the veſſel ſailed to Cadiz; and Langley being now appointed ſteward to the captain, in the courſe of his reading ſome letters, found one directed to Meſſrs. Ryan and Mannock; and having been a ſchoolfellow with Mr. Mannock, he requeſted the captain's permiſſion

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to go on ſhore; and was received in the moſt friendly manner by Mr. Mannock, who offered to ſerve him in any way within his power: when Langley ſaid that what he wiſhed was a diſcharge from his preſent ſituation.

Hereupon Mannock wrote to the captain, deſiring him to pay the ſteward and diſcharge him: but this being refuſed, Langley took a lodging to which he was recommended by his friend, who deſired he would dine daily at his table, till he procured a paſſage for England. He likewiſe gave him money and cloaths, ſo as to enable him to appear in the character of a gentleman.

Langley behaved with great regularity for ſome time; but the ſeaſon of the carnival advancing, he got into company with a woman of ill fame, with whom he ſpent the evening; and, on his return, was robbed of his hat, wig, and a book which he had borrowed of his friend.

On the following day Mr. Mannock ſaw the book laying at a ſhop for ſale: which chagrined him ſo much that he aſked Langley for it; who thereupon acknowledged the whole affair; and Mr. Mannock ſuppoſing the woman was privy to the robbery, he took out a warrant againſt her; by which he recovered his book, which he greatly eſteemed.

This matter being adjuſted, Langley, by the aid of his friend, procured a paſſage for England: but, juſt when he was going to embark, he met with a woman, who detained him till the ſhip was ſailed: on which he took a boat, and paſſed over to St. Lucar, where he went on board an Engliſh veſſel, which brought him to his native country.

On his arrival in London, he found that his creditors under the bankruptcy had received ten

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ſhillings in the pound, which gave him reaſon to hope that he ſhould have a ſum of money returned to him, with which he propoſed to engage in a ſmall way of buſineſs; and in that view applied to his wife's mother for her aſſiſtance, and alſo to inform him where he might find his wife: but ſhe poſitively refuſed to comply with either requeſt.

Langley now gave himſelf up to deſpair, aſſociated with the worſt company; and though he had ſome money left him at this juncture, he diſſipated the whole in the moſt extravagant manner.

He now made an acquaintance with one Hill, a young fellow who was in ſimilar circumſtances; and having agreed to go to Paris together, they walked as far as Dover: but, on their arrival, finding that an embargo had been laid on all veſſels in the port, they determined to return to London.

Being now deſtitute of caſh, they demanded a man's money on the high-way; but on his ſaying he had not any, they ſearched him, and took from him three farthings, which they threw away almoſt as ſoon as they had got it: but for this offence they were apprehended on the ſame day, and being tried at the next aſſizes for Kent, were capitally convicted; but the ſentence was changed to tranſportation for ſeven years, through the lenity of the judge.

Langley was tranſported in the month of December, 1740.

The life of this malefactor will afford as uſeful a leſſon as that of any we have had occaſion to record. He had no temptation to theft but what aroſe from his own vices; yet could he be baſe enough repeatedly to rob his own father; which

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was in effect but robbing himſelf; a ſpecies of falſe policy, which one would think none but a fool as well as a villain could have thought of.

His attempt to deſtroy himſelf while in a ſpunging-houſe, ſhews to what a degree of deſperation the mind of the guilty may be driven. His adventures were ſtrangely numerous and various: yet in no part of the world to which he travelled could he find reſt for the ſole of his foot.

He was a ſcholar, yet could meet with no repoſe in the ſeminaries of learning: he appears to have been qualified to keep the beſt company, yet an unhappy propenſity to vice, fitted him only for the worſt!

In a word, he appears to have been a ſlave to his own paſſions. His uncommon attachment to women was one great ſource of his misfortunes; and he had not learnt, what we hope our readers will learn, by the peruſal of this narrative, to "teach the paſſions to move at the command of "virtue!"

The ignominy that this man underwent in conſequence of his vices, ſhould inſtruct us that nothing is ſo honourable as ſtrict integrity; nothing ſo glorious as the practice of true religion!

Particulars of the Caſe of HENRY SMYTHEE, Eſq. who was hanged for Murder.

MR. SMYTHEE's father having been for many years the commander of a ſhip in the merchant's ſervice, reſigned in favour of his ſon, who was a young gentleman qualified by nature and appearance, to cut a capital figure in any rank of life.

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After he had made ſeveral voyages, a ſtorm obliged him to put into the harbour of Pool in Dorſetſhire, where he ſaw a young lady, the daughter of a merchant, to whom he paid his addreſſes, and was in a ſhort time married. His wife's father dying ſoon after the marriage, Mr. Smythee declined going any longer to ſea, engaged in the mercantile buſineſs, and employed his leiſure hours in rural diverſions.

Being one day out with his gun, he wandered ſo far from home that he loſt his way, and being very hungry, he ſtrolled to a cottage kept by a poor widower, named Ralph Mew, who had an only daughter, equally diſtinguiſhed by the elegance of her form, and the ſimplicity of her manners.

Mr. Smythee requeſted the favour of ſome food; but the countryman ſuſpecting that he meant to take ſome undue advantage of him, told him he might be ſupplied at a public-houſe a mile diſtant. Smythee, to convince the countryman that he was no impoſtor, ſhewed him a diamond ring, a purſe of gold, and his watch; on which he was aſked to ſit down; and Jane Mew, the daughter, fried ſome bacon and eggs for him, while her father drew ſome of his beſt ale.

After his repaſt, he recounted ſome of his adventures in foreign parts; but in the mean time regarded the daughter with an eye of deſire, and being ſtruck with her ſuperior charms, reſolved to get poſſeſſion of her if poſſible.

On his quitting the houſe, the old man told him that if he came that way another time, he ſhould be welcome to any thing in his cottage except his daughter. On the following day he went to the cottage, and gave the old man a tortoiſe-

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ſhell ſnuff-box, as a compliment for his hoſpitable behaviour the day before,

The old cottager going out, Mr. Smythee paid his warmeſt addreſſes to the daughter, to whom he preſented ſome jewels: but ſhe no ſooner judged of his deſign, than ſhe ſaid, "Is it thus, "ſir, you make returns for my father's hoſpita-"lity, and my civility? And can you be ſuch a "wretch, as to think that my poverty will make "me guilty of a diſhonourable action?"

Saying this, ſhe rejected his preſents with contempt; while he, ſtruck with the force of what ſhe had urged, remained ſome time ſpeechleſs, and then attributed his conduct to the violence of his paſſion, and offered to make her all the ſatisfaction in his power, by marriage.

The girl acquainting her father with what had paſſed, Mr. Smythee was permitted to pay his addreſſes in an honourable way: but ſuch were his artifice and villainy, that his ſolemn vows of marriage ſoon prevailed over the too credulous girl; and her ruin was the conſequence.

When the father found that his daughter was pregnant, he died of grief, leaving the unhappy girl a prey to the pungent ſorrows of her own mind. Diſtreſſed as ſhe was, ſhe wrote to her ſeducer; but as he took no notice of her letter, ſhe went to Pool, and being directed to his houſe, the door was opened by Mrs. Smythee, who demanded her buſineſs, and ſaid ſhe was the wife of the perſon for whom ſhe enquired. The poor girl was ſo ſhocked to find that Mr. Smythee had a wife, that it was with difficulty ſhe was kept from fainting, by the help of brandy.

When ſomewhat recovered, ſhe ſaid that ſhe was with child by Mr. Smythee, who had ſeduced

her under promiſe of marriage. Hereupon the wife cenſured her conduct with unreaſonable ſeverity, and threatened that ſhe ſhould be lodged in priſon if ſhe did not immediately quit the town.

Leaving the houſe, the unhappy creature fainted in the ſtreet, and was ſoon ſurrounded by a number of females, who inſulted her with every term of reproach.

When ſhe recovered her ſenſes ſhe went to a public-houſe, where ſhe intended to have lodged; but the landlady threatening to ſend for the beadle, ſhe was obliged to quit the houſe.

In the interim Mr. Smythee came to his own houſe, and was compelled to liſten to the reproaches of his wife on the infidelity of his conduct.

After attending to this diſagreeable lecture, he went out, and deſired a perſon to call on the young woman, and appoint her to meet him at a place without the town.

The unfortunate girl met him accordingly. What paſſed between them it is impoſſible to know; but on the following day ſhe was found with her throat cut, and a bloody pen-knife laying by her. Smythee abſconding, it was generally ſuppoſed that he had been the murderer; and on his return to Pool, about a month afterwards, he was taken into cuſtody, and lodged in the county goal.

In his defence at his trial he urged that the reaſon of his abſence from his family was a quarrel with his wife, in conſequence of the unhappy diſcovery that had been made by the deceaſed: but as he could bring no proof of his being abſent from the ſpot when the murder was committed, he was capitally convicted, and ſentenced to die.

After

After conviction he was viſited by ſeveral clergymen, who exerted themſelves to impreſs him with a due ſenſe of his awful ſituation. He freely acknowledged the great guilt he had incurred in the ſeduction of the unhappy girl; but he ſteadily denied being guilty of the murder to the laſt moment of his life.

As his death advanced, he became ſtill more reſigned, acknowledged the many errors of his life, and confeſſed himſelf worthy to undergo the rigour of the law.

He walked to the place of execution, amidſt the prayers of immenſe ſurrounding multitudes; and having aſcended the cart, addreſſed the populace, adviſing them to refrain from yielding to the firſt impulſes of temptation, as they would wiſh to be preſerved from the violation of the Divine laws. After the uſual devotions, he drew his cap over his face, and ſaying, "To thee, O "Lord, I reſign my ſoul," he was launched into eternity.

He was executed at Dorcheſter, on the 12th of April, 1741.

Thus ended the life of a man who might have lived happy in himſelf, and an uſeful member of ſociety: but his ſubmiſſion to an ungenerous paſſion rendered him obnoxious to the violated laws of God and his country; and finally brought him to condign and exemplary puniſhment.

It does not clearly appear, from the narrative before us, whether Mr. Smythee was, or was not guilty of the murder for which he ſuffered: but the preſumptions are very ſtrong againſt him. Be this as it may, there is nothing uncharitable in ſaying that the man who has been deliberately guilty of the wilful ſeduction of a harmleſs wo-

man, cannot be puniſhed too ſeverely, even by an exertion of the utmoſt rigour of the law.

Character is dearer to a woman than life; and it is pity we have not a ſtatute to puniſh the ſeducer as a murderer. In the mean time, however, he is acutely afflicted by the tormenting pangs of his guilty conſcience, which muſt ſeverely reprobate his conduct, and raiſe a hell in his own mind.

From this ſtory let our readers be taught that, it is by a proper command of the paſſions that we are to expect that peace of mind which is the reſult of conſcious virtue; and that by an improper indulgence of them, we lay a ſure foundation for miſery in preſent, and in future.

Narrative of the Caſes of Captain SAMUEL GOODERE, MATTHEW MAHONY, and CHARLES WHITE, who were hanged for Murder.

SIR JOHN DINELEY GOODERE ſucceeded his father Sir Edward in the poſſeſſion of an eſtate of three thouſand pounds a year, ſituated near Eveſham in Worceſterſhire.

His brother Samuel, the ſubject of this narrative, was bred to the ſea, and at length was advanced to the rank of captain of a man of war.

Sir John married the daughter of a merchant, and received 20,000l. as a marriage-portion; but mutual unhappineſs was the conſequence of this connection: for the huſband was brutal in his manners, and the wife, perhaps, not ſtrictly obſervant of the ſacred vow ſhe had taken; for ſhe was too frequently viſited by Sir Robert Jaſen;

and

and after frequent recriminations between the married pair, Sir John brought an action in the Court of Common Pleas, for criminal converſation, and 500l. damages were averred by the jury.

Sir John's next ſtep was to indict his lady for a conſpiracy, and a conviction following, ſhe was fined, and impriſoned a year in the King's Bench. He likewiſe petitioned for a divorce; but the matter being heard in the Houſe of Lords, his petition was thrown out.

Sir John having no children, Captain Samuel Goodere formed very ſanguine expectations of poſſeſſing the eſtate; but finding that the brother had docked the entail in favour of his ſiſter's children, the captain ſought the moſt diabolical means of revenge for the ſuppoſed injury.

While the captain's veſſel lay in the port of Briſtol, Sir John went to that city on buſineſs; and being engaged to dine with an attorney, named Smith, the captain prevailed on the latter to permit him to make one of their company, under pretence of being reconciled to his brother. Mr. Smith conſented, and uſed his good offices to accommodate the difference; and a ſincere reconciliation appeared to have taken place.

This viſit was made on the 10th of January, 1741, and the captain having previouſly concerted his meaſures, brought ſome ſailors on ſhore with him, and left them at a public-houſe, in waiting to ſeize the baronet in the evening.

Accordingly, when the company broke up, the captain attended his brother through the ſtreets, and when they came oppoſite the public-houſe, the ſeamen ran out, ſeized Sir John, and conveyed him to a boat that had been appointed to wait for his reception.

Some

Some perſons who were witneſſes to this outrage would have reſcued the unfortunate gentleman; but the captain telling them that he was a deſerter, and the darkneſs of the evening preventing them from judging by his appearance, this violation of the laws was permitted to paſs unobſtructed.

As ſoon as the devoted victim was in the boat, he ſaid to his brother, "I know you have an intention to murder me, and if you are ready to do it, let me beg that it be done here, without giving yourſelf the trouble to take me on board:" to which the captain ſaid, "No, brother, I am going to prevent your rotting on land; but, however, I would have you make your peace with God this night."

Sir John being put on board, appealed to the ſeamen for help: but the captain put a ſtop to any efforts they might have made to aſſiſt him, by ſaying he was a lunatic, and brought on board to prevent his committing an act of ſuicide.

White and Mahony now conveyed him to the purſer's cabin, which the captain guarded with a drawn ſword, while the other villains attempted to ſtrangle him, with a handkerchief which they found in his pocket, the wretched victim crying out "murder!" and beſeeching them not to kill him, and offering all he poſſeſſed as a compenſation for his life.

As they could not ſtrangle him with the handkerchief, the captain gave them a cord; with which Mahony diſpatched him, while White held his hands, and trod on his ſtomach. The captain now retired to his cabin; and the murder being committed, the perpetrators of it went to him, and told him "the job was done;" on which he gave

gave them money, and bade them ſeek their ſafety in flight.

The attorney with whom the brothers had dined, having heard of the commiſſion of a murder, and knowing of the former animoſity of the captain to his brother, immediately conjectured who it was that had fallen a ſacrifice; on which he went to the mayor of Briſtol, who iſſued his warrant to the water-bailiff, who going on board, found that the lieutenant and cooper had prudently confined the captain to his cabin.

The offender being brought on ſhore, was committed to Newgate, and Mahony and White being taken in a few hours afterwards, were lodged in the ſame priſon.

At the ſeſſions held at Briſtol on the 26th of March, 1741, theſe offenders were brough to trial; and being convicted on the fulleſt evidence, received ſentence of death.

After conviction Mahony behaved in the moſt hardened manner imaginable; and when the goalers were putting irons on him, he ſaid he ſhould not regard dying on the following day, if he could be attended by a prieſt to whom he might confeſs his ſins. This man and White were both Iriſhmen and Roman Catholics.

Captain Goodere's time, after conviction, was ſpent chiefly in writing letters to perſons of rank, to make intereſt to ſave his life; and his wife and daughter preſented a petition to the king: but all endeavours of this kind proving ineffectual, he employed a man to hire ſome colliers to reſcue him on his way to the fatal tree: but this circumſtance tranſpiring, the ſheriff took care to have a proper guard to carry the law into effectual execution.

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Captain Goodere's wife and daughter, dreſſed in deep mourning, took a ſolemn leave of him on the day before his death. He went in a mourning coach to the place of execution, to which his accomplices were conveyed in a cart.

They were hanged near the Hot Wells, Briſtol, on the 20th of April, 1741, within view of the place where the ſhip lay when the murder was committed.

It is not in the power of language to expreſs the enormity of the crime for which theſe malefactors ſuffered. A murder ſo unprovoked has taken place but in very few inſtances; and we hope it will never happen again. With regard to the ſeamen, there is no doubt but that they were tempted by the offer of money to the commiſſion of the horrid deed: for baſe as the human heart has been known in ſome inſtances, it cannot be ſuppoſed that any man would commit a deliberate murder on a ſtranger, without being ſolicited or tempted to the fact.

Captain Goodere's conduct ſeems to have ariſen from the unjuſtifiable ſin of barbarity founded on covetouſneſs: for when he found that his brother had aſſumed to himſelf the right of diſpoſing of his own fortune, he determined on the moſt bloody and cruel revenge.

From this ſad tale then, let us learn to guard our hearts againſt that impulſe which tempts us to wiſh for the illegal poſſeſſion of our neighbours goods. Let us learn that a morſel of bread honeſtly procured, and eaten in peace, will afford us more real ſatisfaction than the riches of the Indies obtained by a violation of the laws of God and humanity!

A Par-

A Particular Account of JAMES HALL, who was hanged for Petit-Treaſon, in the Murder of his Maſter.

THIS malefactor, according to the account given by himſelf, was deſcended of honeſt parents, of Wells in Hampſhire, who gave him ſuch an education as might qualify him for any ordinary rank of life.

Being unwilling to remain in the country, he came to London, and lived ſome time with a corn-chandler; and after a continuation in this ſervice, he married, and had ſeveral children; but not living happily with his wife, articles of ſeparation were executed between them. After this he married another woman, by whom he had one child, and who viſited him after his being in cuſtody for the murder.

At the ſeſſions held at the Old Bailey, in Auguſt 1741, he was indicted for the murder of John Penny, gentleman, and pleading guilty, received ſentence of death.

Mr. Penny had chambers in Clements Inn; and Hall had lived with him ſeven years before he committed the murder: nor had he formed any deſign of being guilty of the horrid deed till within about a month of its perpetration: but having kept more company than his circumſtances could afford, he had involved himſelf in difficulties, which made him reſolve to murder and rob his maſter.

On the 7th of June, 1741, he intoxicated himſelf with liquor, and then determined to carry his deſign into execution. Mr. Penny coming home between eleven and twelve at night, Hall aſſiſted

in undreſſing him in the dining-room; and while he was walking towards the bed, the villain followed him with a ſtick which he had concealed for the purpoſe, and ſtruck him one blow with ſuch force that he never ſpoke afterwards; and continued his blows on the head till he was apparently dead.

Willing, however, to be certain of compleating the horrid tragedy, and to avoid detection, he went into the dining-room, and ſtripping himſelf naked, he took a ſmall fruit-knife belonging to his maſter, and returning to the chamber, cut his throat with it, holding his neck over the chamber-pot. Mr. Penny bled very freely; for when the blood was mixed with a ſmall quantity of water, it almoſt filled the pot five times; and three of the pots thus mixed the murderer threw into the ſink, and two in the coal-hole. He then took his maſter's waiſtcoat, which was lined with duffil, and bound it round his neck, to ſuck up the remainder of the blood.

This being done, he took the body on his ſhoulders, carried it to the neceſſary, and threw it in head foremoſt; and flying back immediately to the chambers, under the moſt dreadful apprehenſions of mind, he took his maſter's coat, bloody ſhirt, the ſtick that he had knocked him down with, and ſome rags that he had uſed in wiping up the blood, and running a ſecond time naked to the neceſſary-houſe, threw them in at a hole on the oppoſite ſide of it.

The body being thus diſpoſed of, he ſtole about thirty-ſix guineas from his maſter's pocket, and writing deſk; and ſuch was the confuſion of his mind, that he likewiſe took ſome franks, ſealing-wax, and other articles for which he had no uſe: and then he employed the remainder of the night

in

in waſhing and rubbing the rooms with cloths; but finding it no eaſy matter to get out the blood, he ſent for the laundreſs in the morning to waſh them again, telling her that his maſter's noſe had bled over night.

On the following day the guilty wretch ſtrolled from place to place, unable to find reſt for a moment any where; and all his thoughts being engaged in concealing the murder, which he hoped was effectually done, from the place in which he had ſecreted the body.

On the friday following he went to Mr. Wooton, his maſter's nephew, on a pretence of enquiring for Mr. Penny, who he ſaid had quitted the chambers two days before, and gone ſomewhere by water; ſo that he was afraid ſome accident had happened to him.

Mr. Wooton was ſo particular in his enquiries after his uncle, that Hall was exceedingly terrified at his queſtions, and knew not what anſwer to make to them. After this the criminal went twice every day to Mr. Wooton, to enquire after his maſter, for ten days; but lived all the while in a torment of mind that is not to be deſcribed.

So wretched was he, that finding it impoſſible to ſleep in the chambers, he got his wife to come and be with him: and they lay in Mr. Penny's bed: but ſtill ſleep was a ſtranger to him.

At length Mr. Wooton had Hall taken into cuſtody, on a violent ſuſpicion that he had murdered his uncle. On his firſt examination before a magiſtrate, he ſteadily avowed his innocence: but being committed to Newgate he attempted an eſcape: this, however, was prevented; and a few days afterwards he confeſſed his guilt before ſome relations of the deceaſed.

We have already mentioned that he pleaded guilty on his trial; and have now to add that, after ſentence was paſſed on him, he was exceedingly contrite and penitent, and confeſſed his guilt in letters to his friends.

On the day before his death he received the ſacrament, with all apparent ſigns of that penitence which was neceſſary to prepare him for the dreadful ſcene that lay before him.

He was hanged at the end of Catherine Street in the Strand, on the 15th of September, 1741, and his body afterwards hung in chains at Shepherd's Buſh, three miles beyond Tyburn Turnpike, on the road to Acton.

The following is a letter which this malefactor wrote to his wife, the night preceding his execution.

" My Dear, Twelve o'clock Sunday night.

I Am very ſorry we could not have the liberty of a little time by ourſelves, when you came to take your leave of me; if we had, I ſhould have thought of many more things to have ſaid to you than I did; but then I fear it would have cauſed more grief at our parting. I am greatly concerned that I am obliged to leave you and my child, and much more in ſuch a manner, as to give the world room to reflect upon you on my account; though none but the ignorant will, but rather pity your misfortunes, as being fully ſatisfied of your innocency in all reſpects relating to the crime for which I am in a few hours to ſuffer.

I now heartily wiſh, not only for my own ſake, but the injured perſons, yours, and my child's, that I was as innocent as you are, but freely own I am not, nor poſſibly can be in this world; yet I humbly

humbly hope, and fully truſt, through God's great mercy, and the merits of my bleſſed Saviour Jeſus Chriſt, to be happy in the next.

After I parted with you, I received the holy ſacrament comfortably, which Mr. Broughton was ſo good as to adminiſter to me, who has alſo ſeveral times before taken a great deal of pains to inſtruct me, and ſo has ſome others of his acquaintance, by whoſe aſſiſtance, and my own endeavours, I hope God will pardon all my ſins for Chriſt's ſake, and admit me into his heavenly kingdom.

My dear, ſome of my lateſt prayers will be to God to direct and proſper you and my child in all good ways, ſo long as he pleaſes to let you live here on earth; that afterwards he may receive you both to his mercies to all eternity. I hope I ſhall willingly ſubmit to my fate, and die in peace with all men. This is now all the comfort I can give you in this world, who living was, and dying hope to remain,

Your loving and moſt affectionate huſband,

JAMES HALL."

To all we have ſaid on the ſubject of murder, little need be added on this occaſion. Thoſe who fail to be ſtruck by a recital of this horrid tale, muſt have leſs humanity than we hope falls to the ſhare of any of our readers.

Inſtead, therefore, of making any remarks on this particular caſe, we will ſuppoſe it to be a ſufficient comment on itſelf; and conclude with a prayer that we may all be delivered even from the temptation of ſpilling innocent blood!

An Account of the numerous Adventures of HENRY COOK, who was hanged for a Highway-Robbery.

THIS offender was the ſon of creditable parents in Houndſditch, who having given him a decent education, he was apprenticed to a leather-cutter, with whom he ſerved his time, and then his father took the ſhop of a ſhoemaker at Stratford in Eſſex, in which he placed his ſon.

Having ſome knowledge of the ſhoe-making buſineſs, he was ſoon well eſtabliſhed, and married a young woman at Stratford, by whom he had three children before he commenced highwayman.

However, it was not long after his marriage before the aſſociating with bad company, and the neglect of his buſineſs, involved him ſo far in debt, that he was obliged to quit his houſe in apprehenſion of the bailiffs.

He was afterwards obliged wholly to decline buſineſs; and having taken up goods in the name of his father, he was aſhamed to make application to him for relief in his diſtreſs.

Among the idle acquaintance that Cook had made at Stratford, was an apothecary named Young, who was concerned with him in robbing gardens and fiſh-ponds, and in ſtealing poultry. The perſons robbed offered a reward for apprehending the offenders; and Cook having been known to ſell fowls at Leadenhall-Market, a warrant was granted to take him into cuſtody: but having notice of it, he concealed himſelf two months at the houſe of a relation at Grays in Eſſex.

During

During this retreat it was determined not to execute the warrant; but Cook learning that a bailiff at Stratford had vowed to arreſt him if he could be found, he ſent the officer a letter, adviſing him to conſult his own ſafety, for he would blow his brains out if he ſhould meet him.

This threat effectually intimidated the bailiff: and Cook having diſſipated all his caſh, went to Stratford, where he found a man ſo intimate with his wife, that he became enraged in the higheſt degree, and taking ſeveral articles of furniture with him, he went to London and ſold them.

This being done, he went to the houſe of a relation in Shoreditch, where he was treated with civility while his money laſted; but when that was nearly gone there was no farther appearance of friendſhip: and being now driven to extremity, he went to Moorfields, where he purchaſed a pair of piſtols, and having procured powder and ball, went towards Newington, in his way to which he robbed a man of fifteen ſhillings, and returned to London.

Thus embarked in the high road to deſtruction, he determined to continue his dangerous trade; and on the following day went to Finchley-Common, where he ſtopped a gentleman, the bridle of whoſe horſe he ſeized, and ordered him to diſmount on pain of death. The rider complying, was robbed both of his money and horſe; but he offered the highwayman three guineas if he would ſend the horſe to an inn at St. Albans, which he promiſed to do; but afterwards finding that he had a valuable acquiſition in the beaſt, he failed to reſtore him.

This robbery being committed, he croſſed the country to Endfield-Chace, and going to a public-houſe

houſe where he was known, ſaid that, he wiſhed to hide himſelf leſt he ſhould be arreſted.

Having continued here two days, he proceeded to Tottenham, where he robbed a gentleman of about ſix pounds, and leaving his horſe at an inn in Biſhopſgate-Street, he went to his kinſman's in Shoreditch, where he was interrogated reſpecting his poſſeſſing ſo much money: but he would give no ſatisfactory anſwer.

On the following day he went on the St. Alban's Road, and having robbed a ſtage-coach of eight pounds, he went to Enfield-Chace, to the houſe he had frequented before; but while he was there he read an advertiſement in which his horſe was ſo exactly deſcribed, that he determined to abſcond: on which he went to Hadley-Common near Barnet, where he robbed a gentleman, and taking his horſe, gave the gentleman his own.

Soon after this he went to an inn at Mims, where he ſaw a gentleman whom he had formerly robbed, and was ſo terrified by the ſight of the injured party that he ran to the ſtable, took his horſe, and galloped off with the utmoſt expedition.

On the road between Mims and Barnet he was met by eight men on horſeback, one of whom challenged the horſe he rode, ſaying that a highwayman had ſtolen it from a gentleman of his acquaintance.

Our adventurer replied that he had bought the horſe at the Bell at Edmonton, of which he could give convincing proofs; on which the whole company determined to attend him to that place: but when he came near Edmonton, he galloped up a lane, where he was followed by all the other parties; and finding himſelf in danger of being appre-

apprehended, he faced his purſuers, and preſenting a piſtol, ſwore he would fire, unleſs they retreated: but ſome countrymen coming up at this juncture, he muſt have been made priſoner, only that night advancing he quitted his horſe, and took ſhelter in a wood.

When he thought he might ſafely leave his lurking place, he haſtened to London, and going to the houſe of his relation in Shoreditch, he was challenged with having committed robberies on the highway: but nothing could be learnt from the anſwers he gave.

Having diſſipated his preſent money, he went again to Finchley-Common; but his late narrow eſcape made ſuch an impreſſion on his mind, that he ſuffered ſeveral perſons to paſs unattacked, but at length robbed an old man of his horſe and five pounds, though not till after it was dark.

Soon after the commiſſion of this robbery he met a gentleman, whom he obliged to change horſes with him; but, in a few minutes afterwards, the gentleman was ſtopped by the owner of the ſtolen horſe, who ſaid a highwayman had juſt robbed him of it. Enraged at this, the gentleman ſwore the place was infeſted with thieves: however he delivered the horſe, and walked to London.

Cook riding to his old place of reſort near the chace, remained there three days; but ſeeing the horſe he had laſt ſtolen advertiſed, he rode off, in fear of diſcovery: but had not proceeded far, before he was ſeized by the owner of the horſe, and three other perſons, who conducted him to Newgate.

At the next Old Bailey ſeſſions he was indicted for ſtealing this horſe; but acquitted, becauſe the owner would not ſwear to his perſon.

Soon after his diſcharge, he returned to his former practices, but his affairs with his creditors having been by this time adjuſted by his friends, he lived at Stratford with his wife, and committed his depredations chiefly on Epping-Foreſt.

Having acquired a booty of thirty pounds, he ſhewed it to a journeyman he kept, named Taylor, and aſked him how he might employ it to the beſt advantage in buying leather: but Taylor, gueſſing how it had been obtained, offered to go partners with his maſter in committing robberies on the highway; and the contract was inſtantly made.

They now ſtopped a great number of coaches on the borders of the Foreſt; but acted with ſuch an uncommon degree of caution, that they were for a long time unſuſpected; but the neighbours being terrified by ſuch repeated outrages on the public peace, a captain Mawley took a place in the baſket of the Colcheſter coach to make diſcoveries: and Cook and Taylor coming up to demand the money of the paſſengers, Taylor was ſhot through the head; on which Cook ran to the captain, and robbed him of his money, on threats of inſtant death.

The carriage driving on, Cook began to ſearch his deceaſed companion for his money; but ſome of the neighbours coming up, he retired behind a hedge to liſten to their converſation; and having found that ſome of them knew the deceaſed, and intimated that he had been accompanied by Cook, he croſſed the fields to London.

Having ſpent three days in riot and diſſipation, he went to his relation in Shoreditch, whom he requeſted to go to Stratford, to enquire the ſituation of affairs there. When his relation return-

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ed, he told him there were ſeveral warrants iſſued againſt him, and adviſed him to go to ſea.

This he promiſed to do: but inſtead thereof, he bought a horſe, and rode to Brentwood in Eſſex, where he heard little converſation but of Cook, the famous highwayman of Stratford: and on the next day he followed a coach from the inn where he had put up, and took about thirty pounds from the paſſengers.

Cook now connected himſelf with a gang of deſperate highwaymen in London, in conjunction with whom he ſtopped a coach near Bow, in which were ſome young gentlemen from a boarding-ſchool. A Mr. Cruikſhanks riding up at this inſtant, one of the gang demanded his money; but as he heſitated to deliver it, another of them knocked him down and killed him on the ſpot; after which the robbers went to a public houſe near Hackney-marſh, and divided the ſpoils of the evening.

Cook continued but a ſhort time with this gang; but going to a houſe at Newington Green, ſent for a woman with whom he had cohabited; who threatened to have him apprehended, unleſs he would give her ſome money; and though he had but little in his poſſeſſion, he gave her a guinea, and promiſed her a farther ſum, leſt ſhe ſhould carry her threats into execution.

Oppreſſed in mind by contemplations on his crimes, and particularly by reflecting on the murder of Mr. Cruikſhanks, he went to St. Albans, where he aſſumed a new name, and worked as a journeyman ſhoemaker for about three weeks; when a highwayman being purſued through the town, the terrors of his conſcience on the occaſion were ſuch, that he haſtily left the

ſhop, and ran acroſs the country, towards Woburn in Bedfordſhire.

In his way to Woburn he robbed a farmer of fifty pounds and his horſe and bad him ſue the county. The farmer ſoon raiſed the hue and cry: but Cook eſcaped for the preſent, and riding as far as Birmingham, took lodgings at a public-houſe, and diſpoſed of his horſe.

Cook had now taken on him the name of Stevens; and the landlord of the houſe where he lodged telling him that there was a ſhop to lett, he took it, and entered into buſineſs as a ſhoemaker. He now hired one Mrs. Barrett as his houſe-keeper; but ſhe ſoon became his more intimate companion; and accompanying him to horſe-races, and other places of public diverſion, his little money was ſoon diſſipated.

Thus ſituated, he told his houſe-keeper that he had an aunt in Herefordſhire, who allowed him a hundred per annum, which he received in quarterly payments; and that he would go to her for his money. Under this pretence he left her, and went to Northampton, and from thence to Dunſtable, near which place he robbed a farmer of his horſe, and ſixteen pounds, and then rode to Daventry.

At this laſt place he met with a Mancheſter dealer, going home from London; and having ſpent the evening together, they travelled in company next day, and dined at Coventry. Cook having an intention of robbing his fellow-traveller, intimated that it would be proper to conceal their money, as they had a dangerous road to travel; and putting his own money in his boot, the other put a purſe of gold into his ſide-pocket.

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Proſecuting their journey till they came to a croſs-road, Cook demanded his companion's money, on pain of immediate death: and having robbed him of thirty-five guineas, he travelled immediately to Birmingham; and Mrs. Barrett imagined he had been ſupplied by his aunt, agreeable to the ſtory he had told her.

He now carried on trade as uſual; but as often as he was diſtreſſed for caſh, he uſed to have recourſe to the road, and recruited his pockets by robbing the ſtages.

At length a London trader coming to Birmingham, aſked Cook how long he had lived there; which terrified him ſo that he quitted the place, and travelled towards London, and near Highgate robbed a gentleman, named Zachary, of his horſe and money.

On this ſtolen horſe he rode to Epping-Foreſt on the following day; and having robbed a gentleman, returned to London by the way of Stratford, at which place he ſpoke to a number of his old acquaintance; but was not imprudent enough to quit his horſe.

Going to a houſe he had frequented at Newington-Green, he ſent for his relation who lived near Shoreditch, who adviſed him to make his eſcape, or he would certainly be taken into cuſtody. On this he went to Mims; and his relation viſiting him, Cook begged he would ſell five watches for him: but the other declined it recommending him to diſpoſe of them himſelf in London.

On the following evening, when it was almoſt dark he rode towards town, and obſerving a chaiſe behind him, permitted it to paſs and followed it to the deſcent of the hill towards Holloway. There were two gentlemen in the chaiſe, whoſe

whoſe money Cook demanded: but, inſtead of complying, they drove on the faſter; on which he fired, and wounded one of them in the arm: but the report of the piſtol bringing ſome people towards the ſpot, he galloped off, and went to Mims, his old place of retreat.

Coming to London next day, to ſell his watches, he was ſeen in Cheapſide by a woman who knew him, and followed him to Norton-Falgate, where obſerving him go into a public-houſe, ſhe went and procured a conſtable, who took him into cuſtody, and found on him five watches, and about nine pounds in money.

On his examination before a magiſtrate, Mr. Zachary, whom he had robbed near Highgate, ſwearing to the identity of his perſon, he was committed to Newgate: but not before he had offered to become evidence againſt ſome accomplices he pretended to have had: but this offer was rejected.

He now formed a ſcheme to murder the keepers, and make his eſcape: but being detected, he was confined to the cells; and being brought to his trial at the Old Bailey, was capitally convicted.

After ſentence of death he for ſome time affected a gaiety of behaviour; but when the warrant for his execution arrived, he was ſo ſtruck with the idea of his approaching fate, that it occaſioned convulſive fits, and he never afterwards recovered his health.

This malefactor was hanged at Tyburn, on the 16th of December, 1741.

In the caſe of this offender we have a ſtriking inſtance of the terrors of a guilty conſcience. The ſight of a gentleman at Mims, whom he had formerly robbed, compelled him to fly when no

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one purſued. His changing his name, once at St. Albans, and again at Birmingham, ſhews the perpetual anxiety in which thieves live, in dread of the diſcovery of their evil actions; and the whole courſe of his adventures, though in pecuniary acquirements he was more fortunate than highwaymen generally are, ſerves only to prove that thoſe who depart from the plain path of equity, do but entangle themſelves in a perpetual labyrinth of care and anxiety. The honeſt man, however low his fortunes, muſt enjoy more peace of mind in a ſingle hour, than the villain can do in the whole courſe of his life.

Deſtruction naturally follows vice. The wages of ſin are death; but the righteous man ſhall be honoured, and his name held in everlaſting remembrance!

The ſingular Exploits of ROBERT RAMSEY, who was executed for Houſe-breaking.

THIS offender was born of reſpectable parents near Groſvenor-ſquare, and apprenticed to an apothecary, after being liberally educated at Weſtminſter-ſchool. His maſter's circumſtances becoming embarraſſed, Ramſey left him, and went into the ſervice of another gentleman of the ſame profeſſion.

He now became a profeſſed gameſter. The billiard and hazard-tables engroſſed his time; and his ſkill being great, he often ſtripped his companions; yet the money he thus obtained, he diſſipated in the moſt extravagant manner.

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Having made an acquaintance with one Carr, they ſingled out a clergyman who frequented the coffee-houſe they uſed, as a proper object to impoſe upon; and having ingratiated themſelves into his good opinion, Ramſey took the opportunity of Carr's abſence to tell the clergyman that he had a ſecret of the utmoſt conſequence to impart: and the clergyman having promiſed ſecrecy, the other ſaid that Carr was in love with a young widow, who was very rich, and inclined to marry him; but that the match was oppoſed by her relations.

He added that the lady herſelf was averſe to being married at the Fleet, even if ſhe could eſcape the vigilance of her relations ſo far as to reach that place. The clergyman liſtening to the ſtory, Ramſey offered him twenty guineas to marry the young couple; and it was agreed that the parties ſhould meet at a tavern near the Royal Exchange on the following day.

Ramſey, having told Carr what had paſſed, went to the clergyman the next morning; and obſerving that if the lady took her own footman he might be known, ſaid he would diſguiſe himſelf in livery, and attend the prieſt.

This being done, a hackney-coach was called for the clergyman, and Ramſey getting up behind it, they drove to the tavern, where rich wines were called for, of which Ramſey urged the clergyman to drink ſo freely that he fell aſleep, when Ramſey picked his pocket of his keys.

The gentleman awaking, enquired for the couple that were to be married: on which Ramſey calling for more wine, ſaid he would go in ſearch of them: but immediately calling a coach, he went to the clergyman's lodgings, and producing

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the keys, ſaid he had been ſent by the gentleman for ſome papers in his cabinet.

The landlady of the houſe, ſeeing the keys, permitted him to ſearch for what he wanted: on which he ſtole a diamond ring of the value of forty pounds, and about a hundred pounds in money, and carried off ſome papers.

This being done, he returned to the clergyman, ſaid that the young couple would attend in a ſhort time, and deſired him to order a genteel dinner: but this laſt injunction was unneceſſary; for the parſon had taken previous care of it; and while he was at dinner, Ramſey ſaid he would go and order a diamond, and a plain gold ring, and would return immediately.

He had not been long abſent when a jeweller brought the rings, which he ſaid were for a baronet and his lady who were coming to be married. The clergyman aſked him to drink the healths of the young couple; and juſt at this juncture Ramſey came in and told the jeweller that he was inſtantly wanted at home; but that he muſt return without loſs of time, as his maſter's arrival was immediately expected.

The jeweller was no ſooner gone than Ramſey taking up the diamond ring, ſaid that he had brought a wrong one, and he would go back and rectify the miſtake. In the interim the jeweller finding that he had not been wanted at home, began to ſuſpect that ſome undue artifice had been uſed; on which he hurried to the tavern, and thought himſelf happy to find that the parſon had not decamped.

Having privately directed the waiter to procure a conſtable, he charged the clergyman with defrauding him of the rings. The other was aſton-

iſhed at ſuch a charge; but the jeweller inſiſted on taking him before a magiſtrate; where he related a tale that, ſome days before, thoſe rings had been ordered by a man whom he ſuppoſed to be an accomplice of the perſon now charged: but the clergyman being a man of fair character, ſent for ſome reputable people to bail him; while the jeweller returned home, curſing his ill fortune for the trick that had been put on him.

London being an unſafe place for Ramſey longer to reſide in, he went to Cheſter, where he aſſumed the character of an Iriſh gentleman, who had been to ſtudy phyſic in Holland, and was now going back to his native country. During his reſidence at Cheſter he inſinuated that he was in poſſeſſion of a ſpecific cure for the gout; and the landlord of the inn he put up at being ill of that diſorder, took the medicine; and his fit leaving him in a few days, he aſcribed the cure to the ſuppoſed noſtrum.

Ramſey having gone by the name of Johnſon in this city, now dreſſed himſelf as a phyſician, and having printed and diſperſed hand-bills, giving an account of many patients whoſe diſorders had yielded to his ſkill; and promiſing to cure the poor without expence, no perſon doubted either the character or abilities of Dr. Johnſon.

A young lady who was troubled with an aſthma became one of his patients; and Ramſey preſuming that ſhe poſſeſſed a good fortune, inſinuated himſelf ſo far into her good graces that ſhe would have married him; but that her uncle, in whoſe hands her money was, happened to come to Cheſter at that juncture.

The young lady acquainted the uncle with the propoſed marriage; on which the old gentleman obſerved that it would be imprudent to marry a man

man with whoſe circumſtances and character ſhe was wholly unacquainted; on which ſhe conſented that the neceſſary enquiries ſhould be made; but to this her conſent was reluctantly obtained, as ſhe was entirely devoted to her lover.

Hereupon Ramſey put into the uncle's hands copies of ſeveral letters which he ſaid he had written to ſome people of diſtinction, who would anſwer for his character. By this fineſſe he hoped to get time to prevail on the lady to marry him privately, which, indeed, ſhe would readily have done, but through fear of offending her uncle.

During this ſituation of affairs, while Ramſey was walking without the city, he happened to ſee the clergyman above-mentioned, whom he had ſo much injured in London; on which he haſtily retired to a public-houſe in Cheſter, and ſent a perſon to Park-Gate, to enquire when any ſhip would ſail for Ireland: and the anſwer brought was, that a veſſel would ſail that very night.

On receiving this intelligence Ramſey went and drank tea with the young lady; and taking the opportunity of her abſence from the room, he opened a drawer, whence he took a diamond ring, and fifty guineas, out of eighty which were in a bag.

Some little time afterwards he aſked the lady to ſpend the evening at his lodgings, and play a game at cards; and having obtained her conſent, they ſpent ſome time with apparent ſatisfaction: but Ramſey going down ſtairs, returned in great haſte, and ſaid that her uncle was below. As ſhe appeared frightened by this circumſtance, he locked her in the room, firſt giving her a book to read, and ſaid that if her uncle ſhould deſire to come up, he would pretend to have loſt the key of the door.

The intent of this plan was to effect his eſcape while ſhe was confined; and having got on board the ſhip the ſame evening, he ſent her a letter, of which the following is a copy:

" Dear Madam,

I Doubt not but you will be extremely ſurpriſed at the ſudden diſappearance of your lover; but when you begin to conſider what a dreadful precipice you have eſcaped, you will bleſs your ſtars. By the time this comes to hand, I ſhall be pretty near London, and as for the trifle I borrowed of you, I hope you will excuſe it, as you know I might have taken the whole, if I would; but you ſee there is ſtill ſome conſcience among us doctors.

The ring I intend to keep for your ſake, unleſs the hazard-table diſappoints me, and if ever fortune puts it in my power, I will make you a ſuitable return; but till then, take this advice, Never let a ſtrange doctor poſſeſs your affections any more.

I had almoſt forgot to aſk pardon for making you my priſoner; but I doubt not but old Starchface, your uncle, would detain me a little longer, if he could find me. Adieu!

R. JOHNSON.

This letter he committed to the care of a perſon who was to go to Cheſter in a few days; and in the interim Ramſey reached Dublin, where having diſſipated his money in extravagance, he embarked in a ſhip bound to Briſtol, whence he travelled to London.

On his arrival in the metropolis, he found his younger brother, who had likewiſe ſupported himſelf

ſelf by acts of diſhoneſty; and the two brothers agreed to act in concert.

They now committed a variety of robberies in conjunction, confining their depredations chiefly to the ſtealing of plate; but as there was nothing extraordinary in their mode of committing theſe robberies, we proceed to the narrative of that for which Ramſey ſuffered the utmoſt rigour of the law.

Having taken a previous ſurvey of Mr. Glyn's houſe at the corner of Hatton-Garden, the brothers broke into it in the night, and carried off a quantity of plate; but hand-bills being immediately circulated, they were taken into cuſtody while offering the plate for ſale to a Jew in Duke's Place. The lord mayor, on examining the priſoners, admitted the younger brother an evidence againſt the elder.

At the next ſeſſions at the Old Bailey it was an affecting ſcene to behold the one brother giving evidence againſt the other, who was capitally convicted, and received ſentence of death.

After conviction Ramſey ſeemed to entertain a proper idea of the enormity of the offences of which he had been guilty; and in ſeveral letters to perſons whom he had robbed, he confeſſed his crimes, and entreated their prayers. He did not flatter himſelf with the leaſt hope of pardon; ſenſible that his numerous offences muſt neceſſarily preclude him from ſuch favour.

A letter which he wrote to a friend at Briſtol contains the following pathetic expreſſions:——

" O blame me not: I am now by the juſt judg-
" ment of God and man under ſentence of death.
" Whatever injuries I have committed, with tears
" in my poor eyes, I aſk forgiveneſs. Oh! my
" friend, could you but gueſs or think what ago-

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" nies I feel, I am ſure you would pity me: may " my Father which is in heaven pity me like- " wiſe!"

At the place of execution Ramſey made an affecting addreſs to the ſurrounding multitude; entreating the younger part of the audience to avoid gaming, as what would infallibly lead to deſtruction.

After the cuſtomary devotions on ſuch melancholy occaſions, he was turned off, and the body having hung the uſual time, was conveyed in a hearſe to Giltſpur ſtreet, whence it was taken and decently interred by his friends, at the expiration of two days from the time of his execution.

Ramſey was executed at Tyburn on the 13th of January 1742.

In the caſe of the abovementiond malefactor we learn that ſuperior ſkill in tricks and contrivances is but a readier way to death and deſtruction. Gaming ought to be avoided by young people, as ſteadily as they would avoid walking blindfold to the edge of a precipice. Nothing leads ſo certainly to ruin. The gameſter muſt, at the beſt, live a life of perpetual anxiety; and, if he thinks at all, can conſider himſelf only as a beaſt of prey, who is to be ſupported by the deſtruction of his fellow-creatures.

The circumſtance of Ramſey's brother giving evidence againſt him is ſhocking to humanity, at the ſame time that it ſhews the wiſdom of thoſe laws which have permitted the evidence of accomplices as neceſſary to convict the principal offender.

Upon the whole, by the fate of this man we may be taught, that neither the moſt refined arts of cunning, nor the ſtrongeſt ties of conſanguinity, are ſufficient to evade the force of the laws

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of our country: thoſe laws framed equally for the protection of every ſubject; which pay no regard to rank, and which are favourable only to innocence!

It is the obſervation of a great legal ornament of our kingdom, that "no innocent man need "fear the law:"—and to this, ſurely, it may with propriety be added, that "there is no guil-"ty one but ought to dread it."

Narrative of the Caſe of MARTIN NOWLAND, who was hanged for enliſting Men into the French Service.*

THE kingdom of Ireland gave birth to this offender, who, while a youth, was decoyed from his parents, conveyed to Dunkirk, and entered into the regiment of Dillon. In this ſtation he continued fourteen years, at the end of which time he was ſent to London, to enliſt men into the French ſervice; and was promiſed a commiſſion on his return, as a reward for the diligence he might exert.

On his arrival in London he endeavoured to connect himſelf with people of the lower ranks, whom he thought moſt likely to be ſeduced by his artifices: and one day going on the quays near London-bridge, he met with two brothers named Meredith, both of them in the army, but who occaſionally worked on the quays, to make an addition to their military pay.

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* This offence was rendered capital by an act made in the 9th year of the reign of King George the ſecond.

Having invited theſe men to a houſe in the Borough, he treated them with liquor, repreſented the emoluments that would ariſe from their entering into the French ſervice; and, among other things, ſaid that, excluſive of their pay, they would receive four loaves of bread weekly.

When they were thus refreſhed, Nowland prevailed on them to go to his lodgings in Kent-ſtreet, where he farther regaled them, and then ſaid he hoped they would enter into the ſervice. They expreſſed their readineſs to do ſo; and ſaid they could aid him in enliſting ſeveral other men, if he would ſpend the evening with them at a public-houſe in the Strand.

This propoſal being aſſented to, they took him to a famous alehouſe near the Savoy, called the Coal-hole, where Nowland was terrified at the ſight of ſeveral ſoldiers of the guards: but the Merediths ſaying they were their intimate acquaintance, the parties adjourned to a room by themſelves. Here the brothers aſked Nowland how much they were to receive for enliſting, which he told them would be four guineas; and that he was commiſſioned to pay their expences till they ſhould join the regiment.

The intention of the brothers ſeems to have been to obtain ſome money of Nowland; but finding it was not in his power to advance any while they remained in England, one of them went to the ſerjeant at the Savoy, informed him of what had paſſed, and aſked him how he muſt diſpoſe of Nowland. The ſerjeant ſaid he muſt be detained for the night, and taken before a magiſtrate on the following day.

On his return to the public-houſe, Nowland produced a certificate ſigned by the lieutenant colonel of the regiment, as a proof that he was actually

actually in the ſervice of France. He likewiſe ſaid that the ſoldiers muſt diſpoſe of their cloaths, and purchaſe others, to prevent their being detected at Dover; and he repeated his promiſe of the bounty-money, and other accommodations proper for a ſoldier, on their reaching the regiment.

When the Merediths, and the other ſoldiers, had drank at Nowland's expence till they were ſatisfied, they conveyed him to the round-houſe, and, on the following day, took him before a magiſtrate, to whom, after ſome heſitation, he acknowledged that he had been employed to enliſt men for the Iriſh brigades in the ſervice of France.

Enquiry being made reſpecting his accomplices, he acknowledged that a captain belonging to his regiment was in London, and that ſome other agents were ſoon expected in the kingdom: on which he was informed that he ſhould be admitted an evidence if he would impeach his accomplices. He replied, that "he was a man of "honour, and would never be guilty of hanging "any other perſon to ſave his own life."

He was committed to Newgate in conſequence of this confeſſion, and being brought to his trial, he was convicted at the following ſeſſions at the Old Bailey, and received ſentence of death.

Nowland being of the Roman Catholic perſuaſion, it is not poſſible to give a particular account of his behaviour after conviction; as he declined holding any correſpondence with the ordinary of Newgate. When he came to the fatal tree, he performed his devotions in his own way, and being executed, his body was carried to St. Giles's, and ſoon afterwards buried in St. Pancras churchyard, by ſome of his Roman Catholic friends.

He was hanged at Tyburn, on the 24th of February, 1742.

The offence which coſt this man his life was ſo clearly a violation of his duty as a ſubject, that he could expect no other fate than what befel him. Though he was conveyed from Ireland while a youth, he could not be ſo ignorant as not to know that he was a ſubject of the king of Great Britain; and conſequently that he embarked in a ſcheme which was puniſhable with the utmoſt ſeverity of the law. Nor could he ſcarcely hope to eſcape detection.

The men who engage in ſuch dangerous enterprizes, do not only ſin with their eyes open, but are more liable to puniſhment than almoſt any other offenders whatever: for every honeſt man to whom they apply is likely to give an information againſt them, as enemies to their king, and traitors to their country.

It may not be amiſs juſt to hint to our honeſt ſoldiers, that the pay in the French ſervice is greatly inferior to that of Great Britain; their accommodation worſe, and their treatment more ſevere. So that an Engliſhman who ſhould be tempted to enter into the ſervice of our natural enemies, ought to reflect that he is not only binding himſelf to ſlavery, but violating all the laws of natural affection, while he is making himſelf much more wretched by the exchange.

We hope that theſe conſiderations will be ſufficient to check, in ſome inſtances, ſo pernicious a practice, and that Britons remembering the free charter, to the poſſeſſion of which they were born, will deteſt to be the ſlaves of ſlaves; and treat with contempt all thoſe who would ſeduce them from their duty and loyalty.

Singular Particulars reſpecting JOHN BODKIN, DOMINICK BODKIN, and JOHN-HOGAN, who were hanged for murder.

THE account we have to give of theſe offenders muſt neceſſarily ſhock all thoſe who are not dead to every tender emotion of the ſoul, to all the finer feelings of humanity.

Oliver Bodkin, eſq; was a gentleman who poſſeſſed a good eſtate near Tuam in Ireland. He had two ſons by two wives, the elder ſon named John, to whom this narrative chiefly relates, was ſent to Dublin, to ſtudy the law: and the younger, who was about ſeven years of age, remained at home with his parents.

The young ſtudent lived in a very diſſipated manner at Dublin, and ſoon quitting his ſtudies, came and reſided near his father's place of abode. The father allowed him a certain annual ſum for his ſupport; but as he lived beyond his allowance, he demanded farther aſſiſtance, which the father refuſing, he began to entertain ſentiments of revenge, and included his mother-in-law in his propoſed ſcheme of vengeance; as he imagined that ſhe had induced his father not to encourage his extravagance. He was likewiſe informed that the father intended to leave his eſtate to the younger brother; which farther confirmed him in the diabolical plan which he had formed.

Having engaged his father's couſin, Dominick Bodkin, and his father's ſhepherd, John Hogan, to aſſiſt him in the intended murders, they went to the houſe of Mr. Bodkin, ſenior, whoſe family conſiſted of four men and three women ſervants, excluſive of Mrs. Bodkin and the younger ſon:

and a gentleman named Lynch was at that time on a viſit to the family.

When the murderers came to the houſe they found the maſter, miſtreſs, the child above-mentioned, and Mr. Lynch, at ſupper in the parlour. All theſe they immediately murdered; and then going to the kitchen, killed three ſervant-maids: and finding the men in different parts of the houſe, they likewiſe fell a ſacrifice to their brutal, and unprovoked rage.

The murder of eleven perſons being thus perpetrated, they quitted the fatal ſpot; and when ſome perſons from Tuam came the next morning to ſpeak with Mr. Bodkin on buſineſs, they found the houſe open, and beheld the murdered body of Mr. Lynch, near whom lay that of Mrs. Bodkin, hacked and mangled in a ſhocking manner, and at a ſmall diſtance her huſband, with his throat cut, and the child laying dead acroſs his breaſt. The throats of the maid-ſervants in the kitchen were all cut; and the men-ſervants in another room were likewiſe found victims of the inhuman barbarity of the murderers, who had even been ſo wanton in their cruelties as to kill all the dogs and cats in the houſe.

The neighbours being alarmed by ſuch a ſingular inſtance of barbarity, a ſuſpicion fell on John Bodkin, who, being taken into cuſtody, confeſſed all the tragical circumſtances above-mentioned, and impeached his accomplices: on which the other offenders were taken into cuſtody, and all of them committed to the goal of Tuam.

Being brought to a trial at the next aſſizes, they were capitally convicted, and ſentenced to die.

After conviction, John Bodkin confeſſed that he had made frequent attempts to murder his mo-

ther-

ther-in-law; and that he had murdered his couſin, who was heir at law to a capital eſtate.

Hogan acknowledged that he had deſtroyed two of the parties found in the parlour; and was going to murder the boy, but had not reſolution to do it, from the reflection that the child had been nurſed by his wife; on which he laid him down by his dead father; but he was immediately murdered by Dominick Bodkin.

The above-mentioned Hogan was remarkably ignorant, and behaved in a ſullen and reſerved manner; nor did either of the criminals behave in ſuch a manner after ſentence, as might have been expected from a proper ſenſe of the atrociouſneſs of their crimes. John and Dominick Bodkin were careleſs in their preparations for futurity, and ſeemed to deſpiſe that death that their crimes had ſo amply deſerved.

The head of Hogan was placed over the market-houſe of Tuam, as a caution to people of his rank of life to beware of committing ſuch crimes as thoſe for which he ſuffered: and the others were hung in chains near the place where the murders were perpetrated.

Theſe offenders ſuffered at Tuam in Ireland, on the 26th of March, 1742.

Seldom ſhall we hear of murders ſo atrocious, ſo unprovoked, as thoſe in contemplation! A ſon, becauſe his father will not indulge his extravagance, reſolves on the murder of a parent who had behaved with real generoſity to him; and communicating his plan to two abandoned miſcreants, they agree to act their parts in the horrid tragedy, without proſpect, and, as far as we can judge, without hope of reward.

It is not for mortals to preſume how far the mercy of the Almighty ſhall be extended: but thoſe who

who feel themſelves capable of committing ſuch horrid crimes have no right to expect the interpoſition of God in their favour. The ſin of murder is of the firſt magnitude, of the blackeſt die! The murder of an indulgent parent muſt be ſufficiently ſhocking to every humane mind: but when we conſider, as in the preſent inſtance, what a variety of unprovoked murders were added to the firſt, the mind is loſt in aſtoniſhment at the baſeneſs, the barbarity, the worſe than ſavage degeneracy of thoſe hearts that could perpetrate ſuch horrid deeds!

Let it be the ſubject of our conſtant prayer to the great fountain of mercy and benevolence, that we may be preſerved from the temptation of embruing our hands in the blood of our fellow-creatures; and that our whole lives may be actuated by the principles of juſtice, and guided by the laws of kindneſs!

Singular Caſe of JAMES ANNESLEY, Eſquire, and JOSEPH REDDING, who were tried for Murder, and acquitted.

MR. ANNESLEY was the ſon of Arthur, late Lord Baron of Altham, of the kingdom of Ireland, by his wife Mary Sheffield (natural daughter of John Duke of Buckingham,) to whom he was publicly married, in the year 1706, contrary to the inclination of his mother, and all his relations, particularly Arthur, late Earl of Angleſea, who entertained an inveterate hatred to the duke; and for that reaſon did all in his power to ſet the marriage aſide: but finding that impoſſible, he never would be reconciled

to

to Lord Altham, who was preſumptive heir to his eſtate.

After a cohabitation of ſomething more than two years, a ſeparation took place between Lord Altham and his lady; and his lordſhip having involved himſelf in debt by a life of diſſipation, thought it prudent to retreat to Ireland, where he had a good eſtate: and, after ſome time, he and his lady were reconciled, through the influence of the Duke of Buckingham.

At the end of about a year from this reconciliation, Lady Altham was brought to bed of a ſon, whoſe ſingular life and adventures we are now to record. When the child was about two years of age, a ſecond quarrel aroſe between his parents, and a ſecond ſeparation enſued; on which Lady Altham came to England, and lived in London, in the moſt retired manner, till the year 1729, when ſhe paid the debt of nature.

In the interim Lord Altham lived at Dublin in the moſt extravagant manner, kept the worſt company, and paid no regard to the education of his ſon, who would have been deprived even of the common neceſſaries of life, but for the intervention of ſome farmers, who ſupplied him with ſuſtenance. Occaſionally, indeed, his father would ſend for him; but was generally ſo intoxicated when he ſaw him, that the child reaped no advantage from theſe viſits; and was ſoon reduced to a ſtate of abſolute penury.

Lord Altham dying, in the year 1726, a ſacrifice to his own irregularities, his brother, Captain Richard Anneſley, formed a ſcheme of ſucceeding to the Angleſea eſtate, by ſecreting the right heir, and for this purpoſe he made uſe of many artifices to get the youth into his poſſeſſion: but theſe failed for ſome time, as he was boarded

and

and protected by a butcher named Purcel. The youth having acquainted Purcel that he was the ſon of Lord Altham, his ſtory began to engage the public attention, and a counſellor at law took him into his protection, with an intention of obtaining for him a legal right to his hereditary poſſeſſions.

The youth had not been long in this ſtation when he was found by the diligence of thoſe who were employed to ſearch for him, who forcibly dragged him on board a ſhip bound for Newcaſtle, on Delaware River, in America, where he was generally kept to hard labour; but occaſionally indulged with the liberty of diverting himſelf with fiſhing and fowling.

One day, on his return from ſhooting, he met two Iriſhmen, to whom he communicated the particulars of his birth and connections; and they happening to remember ſeveral circumſtances relating to it, prevailed on the captain of a trading veſſel to intereſt himſelf to procure his releaſement from ſlavery.

This being effected, "he hired himſelf as a "common ſailor in a trading veſſel bound to Ja- "maica; and there, being entered on board one "of his majeſty's ſhips under the command of "Admiral Vernon, openly declared his paren- "tage and pretenſions. This extraordinary claim "made a great noiſe in the fleet," and one of the midſhipmen hearing of it, ſaid "he had been "ſchoolfellow with Lord Altham's ſon, and "ſhould know him again, if not greatly altered, "as he ſtill retained a perfect idea of his counte- "nance."

Hereupon it was propoſed that the experiment ſhould be tried; and the midſhipman going "on "board the ſhip that the claimant was in, for that "pur-

" purpoſe," all the ſailors were aſſembled on deck, " when the midſhipman, caſting his eyes " around, immediately diſtinguiſhed Mr. An- " neſley in the crowd; and laying his hand on " his ſhoulder, ſaid ' This is the man;' affirm- " ing at the ſame time, that while he continued " at ſchool with him, the claimant was reputed " and reſpected as Lord Altham's ſon and heir, " and maintained in all reſpects ſuitable to the " dignity of his rank. Nay he was, in like man- " ner, recognized by ſeveral other perſons in the " fleet, who had known him in his infancy."

" Theſe things being reported to the admiral, " he generouſly ordered him to be ſupplied with " neceſſaries, and treated like a gentleman; and, " in his next diſpatches, tranſmitted an account " of the affair to the duke of Newcaſtle, among " the common tranſactions of the fleet."

Mr. Anneſley arriving in London towards the latter end of the year 1741, intelligence of this circumſtance was immediately ſent to Ireland, on which his uncle, who had heretofore treated him in ſo unworthy a manner, came to England, in order to carry on the ſcene of oppreſſion which lay neareſt his heart: but a gentleman named Mac Kercher, having taken Mr. Anneſley under his protection, ſent him to board at the houſe of a farmer, near Staines in Middleſex.

Mr. Anneſley had not been long in this ſituation before an accident happened which greatly contributed to render his future life unhappy. Being paſſionately fond of ſporting, he obtained leave of the gentlemen of Staines to permit him to ſhoot on their eſtates; and as he was what is called a fair ſportſman, and a profeſſed enemy to poachers, he went into the fields with Joſeph Red-

ding, who was game-keeper to Sir John Dolben; in ſearch of ſuch people as might be found offending againſt the game-laws. They did not meet with any poachers for game; but ſeeing Thomas Eggleſtone and his ſon fiſhing in a river belonging to the manor, they ran to the ſpot, in order to ſeize the net; when Eggleſtone oppoſing them, Mr. Anneſley's gun went off accidentally and killed him on the ſpot.

The ſon having witneſſed the death of his father, haſtened to Staines, and informed the inhabitants of what had happened, ſeveral of whom went out in ſearch of Anneſley and Redding, whom they found at a farm-houſe in the neighbourhood. The ſuppoſed offenders being taken into cuſtody, were ſent to London and lodged in the new priſon, and arraigned at the next ſeſſions at the Old Bailey, in conſequence of bills of indictment which had been found againſt them by the grand jury.

After the trial had been put off one day, at the requeſt of the council for the proſecution, the court ordered it to be brought on. It is not in language to deſcribe the unworthy part that the earl of Angleſea acted in this buſineſs. Excluſive of procuring an attorney to offer 500l. to young Eggleſtone to ſwear that Anneſley pointed the gun at his father and pulled the trigger, he even appeared in perſon on the bench at the trial, in order to brow-beat the unfortunate priſoner. It is aſſerted that the earl ſpent above a thouſand pounds in this proſecution.

In his defence Mr. Anneſley informed the court that his education having been greatly neglected by thoſe whoſe duty it was to have taken every poſſible care of it, ſuch a defence as might ſuit his birth was not to be expected: but he ſaid

that

that " the gun went off by accident; and what-
" ever might be the verdict of the jury, he ſhould
" conſider that unhappy accident as the greateſt
" misfortune of his life."

Redding urged in his defence, that it was his duty, as game-keeper, to ſeize all nets within the bounds of the manor.

The inſtructions given by the court to the jury were, that if they thought the gun went off accidentally, they ſhould bring in a verdict of chance medley, but that Mr. Anneſley would be deemed guilty of manſlaughter, unleſs it appeared that he was engaged in a lawful act. With regard to Redding it was obſerved, that as he ſeized the net under the protection of the law, as game-keeper, it was but juſt that he ſhould be protected by the law.

On Mr. Anneſley's caſe four council argued ſeveral hours; and when the jury were poſſeſſed of all the requiſite information, they went out of court, and having maturely deliberated on the affair, they returned with a verdict of " chance medley," which of courſe acquitted both the priſoners.

This ſingular tranſaction took place in the month of May, 1742; but it may not be unentertaining to our readers to learn ſomething of the future occurrences of Mr. Anneſley's life.

Mr. Mac Kercher, the diſintereſted friend of Anneſley, now determined to exert his utmoſt endeavours to obtain for him the eſtate which was his undoubted right; and with that view took him to Ireland, where Mr. Anneſley granted a leaſe to a perſon named Campbell, that the affair might be determined in a legal way. Campbell taking poſſeſſion of the eſtate of which he had thus obtained a leaſe, was driven from it by Lord

Angleſea; on which a writ of ejectment was brought againſt the earl.

The cauſe was tried by a ſpecial jury of gentlemen of property, before the barons of the Exchequer in Ireland. More than a hundred witneſſes were examined reſpecting the legitimacy of Mr. Anneſley's birth, and the trial laſted fifteen days. Two ſervants who had lived in Lord Altham's family ſwore that Anneſley was the ſon of a ſervant-girl, who had been debauched by Lord Altham; and a popiſh prieſt ſwore that he baptized the child as a baſtard: but to invalidate this laſt evidence, another prieſt ſwore that the former had received two hundred pounds as a gratuity for what he had ſworn.

Mr. Anneſley's being the ſon of Lady Altham was proved by the evidence of three women ſervants, who lived in the family at the time of his birth; and above ten perſons who were preſent at his chriſtening ſwore to ſeveral circumſtances reſpecting his birth. Two ladies proved on oath the reconciliation of Lord and Lady Altham, who had reſided at the houſe of one of the deponent's fathers during ſeveral months; and from thence the lady went into the country to be delivered.

It was ſworn, by a farmer, that the child had been placed with him by Lord Altham as his ſon and heir; and that the farmer had boarded him, though he had never been paid; which, indeed, he attributed to the extravagant manner in which his lordſhip lived.

The attorney who had been employed to tamper with the witneſſes againſt Mr. Anneſley on his trial at the Old Bailey, being brought to Ireland by Mr. Mac Kercher, a doubt aroſe whether an attorney ſhould reveal his client's ſecrets, when, after a debate of a whole day among the council,

it

it was determined by the judges that the examination of the attorney ought to take place.

In conſequence of this examination it appeared that ſeveral perſons had been engaged to ſwear againſt Mr. Anneſley at his trial in London; and at the ſingular trial in Dublin of which we are now ſpeaking, the judges remarked that there was oath againſt oath: at length, however, the jury determined that Mr. Anneſley was the real ſon of Lord and Lady Altham.

Notwithſtanding this determination, the right heir could not take poſſeſſion of his eſtate; for a writ of error was brought againſt the verdict, and writs of appeal were lodged in the houſes of peers of England and Ireland, as the eſtates in queſtion were ſituated partly in each kingdom.

Mr. Mac Kercher, having ſpent a conſiderable fortune in ſupport of the claim of the injured party, was at length arreſted for debt, and remained ſeveral years in priſon; and, in the mean time, Mr. Anneſley was married to the daughter of a farmer in whoſe houſe he had lodged, and lived afterwards in a moſt retired manner; being utterly diſqualified, by his education and former way of life, from obtaining any decent ſupport as a gentleman.

The Earl of Angleſea lived but a few years after the affair we have recorded; and left his eſtate ſo involved, that it is not probable that any perſon will be able to make out a legal claim to it.

Mr. Mac Kercher's ſituation now rendered him unable to miniſter to the neceſſities of Mr. Anneſley, who occaſionally obtained ſome ſmall gratuities from the nobility, and died in the year 1761, after lingering out a life of perpetual anxiety, and fruitleſs expectation; but never took

a gun

a gun in his hand from the time of his unhappily killing the poor man.*

Of all the extraordinary characters we have had occaſion to make remarks on in the courſe of this work, that of Mr. Mac Kercher is the moſt ſingular, perhaps the moſt valuable. He took up the cauſe of an unfriended youth, of whom he knew nothing but from report, and ſupported him through a long, an arduous, and an intricate buſineſs: not, indeed, to the reſtitution of the ſufferer, but to his own eſſential injury: for private information has aſſured us that Mr. Mac Kercher ſpent more than ten thouſand pounds, in this purſuance of the rights of another.

Seldom ſhall we hear of ſo much diſintereſted benevolence as was diſplayed by this man; ſeldom hear of greater, and more undeſerved injuries than were ſuſtained by Mr. Anneſley!

The natural concluſion of this ſtory is, that the final adjuſtment of it muſt be left to that great day of account when all miſts ſhall be cleared from our eyes, and we ſhall witneſs the wiſdom and juſtice of that God who diſpoſes all the events of this lower world, ſo as to contribute moſt eſſentially to anſwer the purpoſes of his eternal benevolence!

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* In the year 1766 the writer of this narrative was acquainted with the daughter of Mr. Anneſley, who was at that time in hope of recovering the eſtate; but it is preſumed that nothing has been done in it ſince; and that the right heirs will never come into poſſeſſion.

Extra-

Extraordinary Caſe of WILLIAM CHETWYND, who was convicted of Manſlaughter, in ſtabbing his Schoolfellow.

THIS unfortunate young gentleman was placed at the academy of Mr. Clare in Soho-Square, and was about fifteen years of age at the time the misfortune happened of which we are now to give an account; and at the ſame ſchool was a youth named Thomas Rickets, then in the 19th year of his age.

At the ſeſſions held at the Old Bailey in October, 1743, the above-named William Chetwynd was indicted for the murder of Thomas Rickets, and was likewiſe indicted on the ſtatute of ſtabbing.

The affair on which the above proſecution was founded is as follows.

Mr. Chetwynd being poſſeſſed of a piece of cake, Rickets aſked him for ſome of it, on which he gave him a ſmall piece; but refuſing to give him a ſecond, which he deſired, he cut off a piece for himſelf, and laid it on a bureau, while he went to lock up the chief part of the cake for his own uſe.

In the interim Rickets took the cake which had been left on the bureau, and when Chetwynd returned and demanded it, he refuſed to deliver it; on which a diſpute aroſe, and Chetwynd having ſtill in his hand the knife with which he had cut the cake, wounded the other in the left ſide of the belly.

Hannah Humphreys, a ſervant in the houſe, coming at that time into the room, Rickets ſaid that he was ſtabbed, and complained much of the pain that he felt from the wound: on which

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Humphreys ſaid to Chetwynd, " You have done " very well;" to which the latter replied, " If " I have hurt him, I am very ſorry for it."

The wounded youth being carried to bed, languiſhed three days under the hands of the ſurgeons, and then expired. In the interim Chetwynd, terrified at what had happened, quitted the ſchool; but as ſoon as he heard of the death of Rickets he went to a magiſtrate, to abide the equitable deciſion of a verdict of his countrymen; and he was brought to his trial at the time and place above-mentioned.

The council in behalf of the priſoner acknowledged the great candour of the gentlemen who were concerned for the proſecution, in their not endeavouring to aggravate the circumſtances attending the offence. They confeſſed the truth of all that had been ſworn by the witneſſes; but inſiſted, in behalf of the accuſed party, that though his hand might have made an unhappy blow, his heart was innocent.

The following is the ſubſtance of their arguments on the caſe. They ſaid that the fact could not amount to murder at common law, which Lord Coke defines to be " an unlawful killing " another man with malice aforethought," either expreſſed by the party, or implied by the law. They ſaid that in this caſe there was not the leaſt malice, as the young gentlemen were friends, not only at the time, but to the cloſe of Rickets's life, when he declared that he forgave the other.

They ſaid that it being proved that there was a friendſhip ſubſiſting, it would be talking againſt the ſenſe of mankind to ſay the law could imply any thing contrary to what was plainly proved. That deliberation, and cruelty of diſpoſition make the eſſential difference between manſlaughter

ter and murder; and they quoted ſeveral legal authorities in ſupport of this doctrine.

One of their arguments was urged in the following words: "Shall the young boy at the "bar who was doing a lawful act, be ſaid to be "guilty of murder? He was reſcuing what was "his own: the witneſſes have told you that after "he had given Rickets a piece of cake, Rickets "went to him for more; he denied to give it "him: he had a right to keep his cake, and the "other had no right to take it; and he had a "right to retake it.

"There are caſes in the books which make a "difference between murder and man-ſlaughter. "If a man takes up a bar of iron and throws it at "another, it is murder; and the difference in "the crime lies between a perſon's taking it up, "and having it in his hand: Chetwynd had the "knife in his hand, and upon that a provoca- "tion enſues, for he did not take the knife up; "if he had, that would have ſhewn an intention "to do miſchief. It may be doubted, whether "or no when he had this knife in his hand for a "lawful purpoſe, and in an inſtant ſtruck the "other, whether he conſidered he had the knife "in his hand; for if in his paſſion he in- "tended to ſtrike with his hand, and ſtruck "with the knife, not thinking it was in his hand, "it is not a ſtriking with the knife.

"That it was to be conſidered whether there "was not evidence to except this caſe from the "letter of the Statute 1 James I.

The other arguments of the council were to the following purpoſe:

" At the beginning of the fray, Rickets had " a knife in his hand; and it was one continued " act. And another queſtion is, whether there " was not a ſtruggle; here was the cake taken, " and in endeavouring to get it again, this acci- " dent happens; at the firſt taking of the cake, it " is in evidence, that Chetwynd was not forced to " extend his arms, unleſs the other was coming " to take it from him, and then a ſtruggle is a " blow.

" This act of the 1 James I. was made for a " particular purpoſe: on the union of the two " kingdoms, there were national factions and " jealouſies, when wicked perſons, to conceal " the malice lurking in their hearts, would ſud- " denly ſtab others, and ſereen themſelves from " the law by having the act looked upon as the " reſult of an immediate quarrel. That this " ſtatute has been always looked upon as a hard " law, and therefore always conſtrued by all the " judges in favour of the priſoner. That when " the facts amount only to man-ſlaughter at com- " mon-law, it has been the cuſtom of the court " to acquit upon this ſtatute.

" The council for the crown, in reply, ſub- " mitted it to the court, whether (ſince the only " points inſiſted on by way of defence for the " priſoner, were queſtions at law, in which the " jury were to be guided by their opinion) the " facts proved and admitted did not clearly, in " the firſt place, amount to murder at common- " law; and in the ſecond place, whether there " could be the leaſt doubt in point of law, " but that this caſe was within the Statute of " 1 James I.

" Upon the firſt it was admitted, that to con- " ſtitute murder there muſt be malice.

" But

" But it was argued, that malice was of two " kinds, either expreſſed and in fact, or implied " by law.

" But when one perſon kills another without " provocation it is murder, becauſe the law pre- " ſumes and implies malice from the act done. " And therefore, whenever any perſon kills ano- " ther it is murder, unleſs ſome ſufficient provo- " cation appear. But it is not every provoca- " tion that extenuates the killing of a man from " murder into man-ſlaughter. A ſlight or trivial " provocation is the ſame as none, and is not " allowed in law to be any juſtification or excuſe " for the death of another. And therefore no " words of reproach or infamy, whatever pro- " voking circumſtances they may be attended " with; no affronting geſtures, or deriding poſ- " tures, however inſolent or malicious, are al- " lowed to be put in balance with the life of a " man, and to extenuate the offence from mur- " der to man-ſlaughter.

" For the ſame reaſon, no ſudden quarrel upon " a ſudden provocation, ſhall juſtify ſuch an act " of cruelty as one man's ſtabbing another, " though it be done immediately in the heat of " paſſion. As if two perſons, playing at tables, " fall out in their game, and the one upon a " ſudden kills the other with a dagger, this was " held to be murder by Bromley, at Cheſter " aſſizes.

" In like manner, no treſpaſs on lands or " goods ſhall be allowed to be any excuſe for one " man's attacking another in ſuch manner as ap- " parently endangers his life, and could not be " intended merely as a chaſtiſement for his of- " fence; becauſe no violent acts beyond the pro-

" portion of the provocation receive countenance
" from the law.

" And therefore if a man beats another for
" treſpaſſing upon his goods or lands, and does
" not deſiſt, he will be juſtified by law; becauſe
" what he does is only in defence of his proper-
" ty, and no more than a chaſtiſement to the
" offender.

" But (ſays the Lord Chief Juſtice Holt) if
" one man be treſpaſſing on another, breaking
" his hedges or the like, and the owner, or his
" ſervant, ſhall upon ſight thereof, take up a
" hedge-ſtake, and knock him on the head, that
" will be murder; becauſe it is a violent act be-
" yond the proportion of the provocation.

" That applying the rules of law to the pre-
" ſent caſe, it was plain, that the violent act
" done, bore no proportion to the provocation.
" All the provocation given was taking up a
" piece of cake, which is not ſuch an offence,
" as can juſtify the priſoner's attacking the per-
" ſon who took it up, with an inſtrument, that
" apparently endangered his life, or rather car-
" ried certain death along with it.

" On the ſecond indictment it was ſaid, that
" the council for the priſoner had in effect con-
" tended, that the ſtatute 1 James I. ſhould
" never be allowed to comprehend any one caſe
" whatſoever, or extend to any one offender,
" which would entirely fruſtrate that ſtatute;
" ſince it was only made in order to exclude ſuch
" perſons who ſtabbed others upon the ſudden,
" from the benefit of clergy; and was intended
" as a ſort of correction to the common-law, by
" reſtraining ſuch offenders through fear of due
" puniſhment, who were emboldened by pre-
" ſuming on the benefit of clergy, allowed by

" the

" the common-law. But if it is to exclude none " from their clergy, who at common-law would " have been entitled to it, it can never have any " effect, and may be as well repealed.

" And if the ſtatute is to have any force or " effect at all, there can be no doubt but it muſt " extend to the preſent caſe. It is expreſsly " within the words: Mr. Rickets was ſtabbed, " having then no weapon drawn in his hand, " and not having before ſtruck the perſon who " ſtabbed him. It is plainly within the inten- " tion; which is declared in the preamble to " have been in order to puniſh ſtabbing or kill- " ing upon the ſudden, committed in rage, or " any other paſſion of the mind, &c. and there- " fore it was ſubmitted to the court, whether " upon the facts proved, and not denied, the " conſequence of the law was not clear, that the " priſoner was guilty within both indictments."

Mr. Baron Reynolds, and Mr. Recorder before whom the priſoner was tried, taking notice of the points of law that had ariſen, the learned arguments of the council, and the many caſes cited upon this occaſion, were of opinion, that it would be proper to have the facts found ſpecially, that they might be put in a way of receiving a more ſolemn determination.

A ſpecial verdict was accordingly agreed on by all parties, and drawn up in the uſual manner, viz. by giving a true ſtate of the facts as they appeared in evidence, and concluding thus: " We " find that the deceaſed was about the age of 19, " and Mr. Chetwynd about the age of 15; and " that of this wound the deceaſed died, on the " 29th of the ſaid September; but whether upon " the whole, the priſoner is guilty of all, or any

" of

" of the ſaid indictment, the jurors ſubmit to " the judgment of the court."

In conſequence of this ſpecial verdict the caſe was argued before the twelve judges, who deemed Chetwynd to have been guilty of manſlaughter only; whereupon he was ſet at liberty after being burnt in the hand.

As we have given the opinion of the council in this caſe ſo fully, it will be the leſs neceſſary to make any long remarks on it: but it is proper that we ſhould earneſtly recommend to young gentlemen who are placed at the ſame ſeminaries of learning, to avoid quarrels; to cultivate the friendſhip of each other; and to live in harmony like ſo many brothers of the ſame family.

Thus will they acquire the eſteem of their preceptors, rivet the love and affection of their parents and other relations; and take one eſſential ſtep towards obtaining the bleſſing of God.

An Account of the Caſe of MARTHA TRACEY, who was hanged for a Street-Robbery.

THIS woman was a native of Briſtol, deſcended of poor parents, who educated her in the beſt manner in their power. Getting a place in the ſervice of a merchant, when ſhe was ſixteen years of age, ſhe lived with him three years, and then came to London.

Having procured a place in a houſe where lodgings were lett to ſingle gentlemen, and being a girl of an elegant appearance, and fond of dreſs, ſhe was liable to a variety of temptations.

Her

Her vanity being even more than equal to her beauty, ſhe at length conceived that ſhe had made a conqueſt of one of the gentlemen lodgers, and was fooliſh enough to think he would marry her.

With a view of keeping alive the paſſion ſhe thought ſhe had inſpired, ſhe ſought every pretence of going into his chamber, and he having ſome deſigns againſt her virtue, purchaſed her ſome new cloaths, in which ſhe went to church on the following Sunday, where ſhe was obſerved by her miſtreſs.

On their return from church, the miſtreſs ſtrictly enquired how ſhe came to be poſſeſſed of ſuch fine cloaths; and having learnt the real ſtate of the caſe, ſhe was diſcharged from her ſervice on the Monday morning.

As ſhe ſtill thought the gentleman intended marriage, ſhe wrote to him, deſiring he would meet her at a public-houſe; and on his attending, ſhe wept inceſſantly, and complained of the treatment ſhe had met with from her miſtreſs, which ſhe attributed to the preſents ſhe had received from him.

The ſeducer adviſed her to calm her ſpirits, and go into lodgings which he would immediately provide for her, and where he could ſecurely viſit her till their marriage ſhould take place.

Deluded by this artifice, ſhe went that day to lodge at a houſe in the Strand, which he ſaid was kept by a lady who was related to him. In this place he viſited her on the following, and ſeveral ſucceſſive days; attending her to public places, and making her preſents of elegant cloaths, which effectually flattered her vanity, and lulled aſleep the ſmall remains of her virtue.

It is needleſs to ſay that her ruin followed. After a connection of a few months, ſhe found

him

him leſs frequent in his viſits; and informing him that ſhe was with child, demanded that he would make good his promiſe of marriage: on which he declared that he had never intended to marry her, and that he would not maintain her any longer; and hinted that ſhe ſhould ſeek another lodging.

On the following day the miſtreſs of the houſe told her that ſhe muſt not remain there any longer, unleſs ſhe would pay for her lodgings in advance; which being unable to do, or perhaps unwilling to remain in a houſe where ſhe had been ſo unworthily treated, ſhe packed up her effects, and removed to another lodging.

When ſhe was brought to bed, the father took away the infant, and left the wretched mother in a very diſtreſſed ſituation. Having ſubſiſted for ſome time by pawning her cloaths, ſhe was at length ſo reduced as to liſten to the advice of a woman of the town, who perſuaded her to procure a ſubſiſtence by the caſual wages of proſtitution.

Having embarked in this horrid courſe of life, ſhe ſoon became a common ſtreet-walker, and experienced all thoſe calamities incident to ſo deplorable a ſituation. Being ſometimes tempted to pick pockets for a ſubſiſtence, ſhe became an occaſional viſitor at Bridewell, where her mind grew only the more corrupt by the converſation of the abandoned wretches confined in that place.

We come now to ſpeak of the fact, the commiſſion of which forfeited her life to the violated laws of her country.

At the ſeſſions held at the Old Bailey, in the month of January, 1745, ſhe was indicted for robbing William Humphreys of a guinea on the king's highway.

The

The fact was, that being paſſing, at midnight, near Northumberland-houſe in the Strand, ſhe accoſted Mr. Humphreys, who declining to hold any correſpondence with her, two fellows with whom ſhe was connected came up, and one of them knocking him down, they both ran away; when ſhe robbed him of a guinea, which ſhe concealed in her mouth: but Mr. Humphreys ſeizing her, and two perſons coming up, ſhe was conducted to the watch-houſe, where the guinea was found in her mouth, as above-mentioned, by the conſtable of the night.

At her trial it was proved that ſhe had called the men, one of whom knocked down the proſecutor; ſo that there could be no doubt of her being an accomplice with them; whereupon the jury brought her in guilty.

After conviction ſhe appeared to have a proper idea of her former guilt, and the horrors of her preſent ſituation. In fact ſhe was a ſincere penitent, and lamented that pride of heart which had firſt ſeduced her to deſtruction.

She was hanged at Tyburn on the 16th of February, 1745, behaving with the greateſt decency and propriety to the laſt moment of her life.

The fate of this woman affords a ſtriking leſſon to girls, againſt the taking pride in thoſe perſonal charms, which the more brilliant they are, will be only the more likely to lead them to deſtruction. The idea ſhe had formed of making a conqueſt of a man in a rank of life ſuperior to her own, ſerved only to aſſiſt towards her ruin: but we cannot help thinking that he who could be baſe enough to ſeduce her under ſolemn promiſes of marriage was ſtill more guilty than her-

ſelf; and in ſome degree an acceſſary to all the crimes ſhe afterwards commited.

It ſeems ſtrangely unnatural that the father ſhould take away the child, and leave the mother to periſh; or to ſubſiſt only in a moſt infamous manner, for which ſhe had been qualified by the gratification of his paſſions!

In the gay hours of feſtivity men may triumph in the advantages they have gained over women in their unguarded moments: but ſurely reflection muſt come, with all her attendant train of horrors. Conſcience will aſſert her rights: and the miſery the wicked ſeducer ſuffers in this life, he ought to conſider only as a prelude to the more aggravated torments he has to expect in the next.

If any one of the readers of this narrative has been guilty of the enormous crime we are now reprobating, it will become him to think ſeriouſly of the great work of reformation; and to repent, in the moſt unfeigned manner, while providence yet permits him the opportunity of repentance. It ought to be remembered, by offenders of every claſs, that the GOD of MERCY is alſo a GOD of JUSTICE!

The ſingular Caſe of MATTHEW HENDERSON, who was hanged for Petit Treaſon.

THIS offender was the ſon of honeſt parents, and born at North Berwick in Scotland, where he was educated in the liberal manner cuſtomary in that country, and brought up in the

the doctrine of the Chriſtian religion, as profeſſed by the Preſbyterians.

Sir Hugh Dalrymple being a member of the Britiſh parliament, took Henderſon into his ſervice when fourteen years of age, and brought him to London. Before he was nineteen years old he married one of his maſter's maids: but Sir Hugh, who had a great regard for him, did not diſmiſs him, though he was greatly chagrined at this circumſtance.

Some few days before the commiſſion of the murder, Sir Hugh having occaſion to go out of town for a month, ſummoned Henderſon to aſſiſt in dreſſing him; and while he was thus employed, Sir Hugh's lady going into the room the ſervant caſually trod on her toe. She ſaid not a word on the occaſion; but looked at him with a degree of rage that made him extremely uneaſy.

When Sir Hugh had taken his leave, ſhe demanded of Henderſon why he had trod on her toe; in anſwer to which he made many apologies, and aſcribed the circumſtance to mere accident; but ſhe gave him a blow on the ear, and declared that ſhe would diſmiſs him from her ſervice.

Henderſon ſaid it would be unneceſſary to turn him away; for he would go without compulſion: but reflecting that her paſſion would ſoon ſubſide, he continued in his place; and was uſed with as much kindneſs as if the accident had not taken place.

Offended by the inſult that had been offered him, Henderſon began to conſider how he ſhould be revenged; and at length came to the fatal reſolution of murdering his miſtreſs. The maid-ſervant going out one night, at paſt eleven

o'clock, to ſee a relation, took the key of the ſtreet-door in her pocket.

In her abſence Henderſon thought that would be a proper time to carry his horrid plan into execution; on which he went into the kitchen, and having furniſhed himſelf with a cleaver, he retired to his bed-chamber, where he remained more than a quarter of an hour, deliberating whether he ſhould or ſhould not commit the murder; and at length he thought himſelf determined, and went up the ſtairs, as far as the firſt landing-place: but ſmitten by his conſcience, he deſcended; ſat ſome time on his bed; then again aſcended a part of the ſtairs, and again came down; incapable for the preſent of carrying his dreadful purpoſe into execution.

Once more he muſtered ſpirits to go up as far as the firſt window; when hearing the watchman crying the midnight hour, he tripped down a few ſteps: but immediately ſummoning his ſhocking reſolution, he went up, and opened the lady's chamber-door, having the cleaver in his hand.

Approaching the bed-ſide, he found her aſleep: but ſtill heſitated on the commiſſion of the crime, and walked acroſs the room in the utmoſt perturbation of mind. At length he went again to the bed, and ſtruck her violently on the head with the cleaver. On receiving the blow, ſhe attempted to get up, but he repeated it, and then heard her ſpeak ſome words, but not plain enough to diſtinguiſh what ſhe ſaid.

Hereupon he gave her a third blow, on which ſhe exclaimed, "O Lord! what is this!"—He now continued his blows till ſhe fell out of bed, and the room ſtreamed with blood. Terrified at what

what he had done, he quitted the room, and threw the cleaver into the neceſſary-houſe.

The murder thus perpetrated, he reſolved to add to it the crime of robbery; and going back to the room, he ſtole ſome money, jewels, and other valuable effects, which he carried to his wife's lodgings, put them in a box, and immediately went back.

On his return he found that he had ſhut himſelf out; but the maid returning ſoon afterwards, unlocked the door, and they went in. The maid obſerving blood on the floor below ſtairs, ſuſpected that ſome miſchief had happened; on which ſhe ran up ſtairs, and finding her lady lying in the manner above-deſcribed, ſhe came down weeping.

As ſoon as it was day-light Henderſon went to the nephew of Sir Hugh Dalrymple, and informed that gentleman of the misfortune that had happened; on which the maid was taken into cuſtody on ſuſpicion, and carried before a magiſtrate, who, from her anſwers, had a ſtrong idea that the fact was committed by Henderſon.

Hereupon he was apprehended by a conſtable, with whom he went very chearfully: but the magiſtrate examining him with unuſual ſtrictneſs, found many contradictions in his ſtory: and at length he confeſſed that he alone had tranſacted the murderous buſineſs.

On this confeſſion he was committed to Newgate, and being brought to his trial at the next ſeſſions at the Old Bailey, he pleaded guilty, and ſentence of death was paſſed on him of courſe.

After conviction he was attended by a miniſter of the Preſbyterian perſuaſion. His behaviour was very penitent and contrite during his impri-

ſon-

ſonment; and at the place of execution he made a ſpeech, adviſing ſervants to be obedient to their maſters, and to behave with ſubmiſſion, inſtead of harbouring ſentiments of revenge.

On the 25th of February, 1746, he was drawn on a ſledge to the end of Oxford-ſtreet, where he was executed; and his body was afterwards hung in chains on the road towards Edgware.

The hiſtory of this malefactor affords a more forcible leſſon againſt the crime of murder than it is in our power to recommend. The agitations, the compunctions of his mind, are inexpreſſible. How long, and how frequently did he heſitate whether he ſhould or ſhould not commit the atrocious crime for which his life paid the forfeit! Pity it is that he did not relent while it was yet in his power!

It is true that Henderſon had given no real cauſe of offence by the caſual treading on his miſtreſs's toe; and her behaviour in ſtriking him for it was unwarrantable: but he ſhould have allowed for the incenſed paſſions of an angry woman; and he was ſtill the more culpable in not reflecting that her ſubſequent behaviour furniſhed a proof that ſhe had forgot her reſentment.

No offence given can juſtify murder: and we ſhould retain it perpetually in our thoughts, that there is a juſt God who ſurveys, and who will cauſe a ſtrict enquiry into all our actions. Each of us ſhould ſay with the poet,

Let me improve the hours I have,
Before the day of grace is fled;
There's no repentance in the grave,
Nor pardon offered to the dead.

The

The remarkable Life and Tranſactions of HENRY SIMMS, who was executed for a Highway-Robbery.

THIS offender, who was a native of St. Martin in the Fields, loſing his father while very young, his grandmother, who was a diſſenter, ſent him firſt to a ſchool kept by a clergyman of her own perſuaſion; but as he frequently ran away, ſhe placed him at an academy in St. James's pariſh, where he became a proficient in writing and arithmetic, and was likewiſe a tolerable Latin and French ſcholar.

Before the boy had compleated his tenth year he gave a ſpecimen of his diſhoneſt diſpoſition. His grandmother taking him with her on a viſit to a tradeſman's houſe, he ſtole twenty ſhillings from the till in the ſhop; which being obſerved by the maid-ſervant, ſhe informed her maſter; and the money being found on the youth, he was ſeverely puniſhed.

He now began to lie from home on nights, and aſſociated with the vileſt of company, in the purlieus of St. Giles's. His companions adviſing him to rob his grandmother, he ſtole ſeventeen pounds from her, and taking his beſt apparel, repaired to St. Giles's, where his new acquaintance made him drunk, put him to bed, and then robbed him of his money and cloaths.

On his waking he covered himſelf with ſome rags he found in the room, and after ſtrolling through the ſtreets in ſearch of the villains, went into an alehouſe, the landlord of which, hearing his tale, interceded with his grandmother to take him again under her protection. To this, after ſome heſitation, ſhe conſented; and buying a chain

chain with a padlock, ſhe had him faſtened, during the day-time, to the kitchen-grate, and at night he ſlept with a man who was directed to take care that he did not eſcape.

After a month of confinement he had his liberty granted him, and new cloaths purchaſed, with which he immediately went among ſome young thieves who were toſſing up for money in St. Giles's. On the approach of night they took him to a brick-kiln near Tottenham-Court-Road, where they broiled ſome ſteaks and ſupped in concert; and were ſoon joined by ſome women, who brought ſome geneva, with which the whole company regaled themſelves.

Simms falling aſleep, was robbed of his cloaths; and when the brick-makers came to work in the morning, they found him in his ſhirt only; and while they were conducting him towards town, he was met by his grandmother's ſervant, who was in ſearch of him, and conveyed him to her houſe.

Notwithſtanding his former behaviour, the old lady received him kindly, and placed him with a breeches-maker, who having corrected him for his ill behaviour, he ran away, and taking his beſt cloaths from his grandmother's houſe in her abſence, ſold them to a Jew and ſpent the money in extravagance.

The old gentlewoman now went to live at the houſe of Lady Stanhope, whither the graceleſs boy followed her, and being refuſed admittance, he broke ſeveral of the windows. This in ſome meaſure compelled his grandmother to admit him; but that very night he robbed the houſe of as many things as produced him nine pounds, which he carried to a barn in Marybone-Fields, and ſpent it among his diſſolute companions.

For

For this offence he was apprehended, and, after ſome heſitation, confeſſed where he had ſold the effects. From this time his grandmother gave him up as incorrigible; and being ſoon afterwards apprehended as a pickpocket, he was diſcharged for want of evidence.

Simms now aſſociated with the worſt of company; but after a narrow eſcape on a charge of being concerned in ſending a threatening letter to extort money, and two of his companions being tranſported for other offences, he ſeemed deterred from continuing his evil courſes; and thereupon wrote to his grandmother, entreating her farther protection.

Still anxious to ſave him from deſtruction, ſhe prevailed on a friend to take him into his houſe, where for ſome time he behaved regularly; but getting among his old aſſociates, they robbed a gentleman of his watch and money, and threw him into a ditch in Marybone-Fields: when ſome perſons accidentally coming up, prevented his deſtruction.

Two more of Simms's companions being now tranſported, he hired himſelf to an inn-keeper as a driver of a poſt chaiſe; and after that lived as poſtillion to a nobleman, but was ſoon diſcharged on account of his irregular conduct.

Having received ſome wages he went again among the thieves, who dignified him with the title of *Gentleman Harry*, on account of his preſumed ſkill, and the gentility of his appearance.

Simms now became intimately acquainted with a woman who lived with one of his accomplices, in revenge for which the fellow procured both him and the woman to be taken into cuſtody on a charge of felony; and they were committed to

Newgate; but the court paying no regard to the credibility of the witneſſes, the priſoners were acquitted.

Soon after his diſcharge Simms robbed a gentleman of his watch and 17l. on Blackheath; and likewiſe robbed a lady of a conſiderable ſum near the ſame ſpot. Being followed to Lewiſham, he was obliged to quit his horſe, when he preſented two piſtols to his purſuers; by which he intimidated them ſo as to effect his eſcape, though with the loſs of his horſe.

Repairing to London, he bought another horſe, and travelling into Northamptonſhire, and putting up at an inn at Towceſter, learnt that a military gentleman had hired a chaiſe for London; on which he followed the chaiſe the next morning, and kept up with it for ſeveral miles. At length the gentleman obſerving him, ſaid "Don't ride ſo hard, ſir, you'll ſoon ride away "your whole eſtate;" to which Simms replied, "Indeed I ſhall not, for it lays in ſeveral coun-"ties:" and inſtantly quitting his horſe, he robbed the gentleman of one hundred and two guineas.

He now haſtened to London, and having diſſipated his ill-acquired money at a gaming-table, he rode out towards Hounſlow, and meeting the poſtillion who had driven the above-mentioned gentleman in Northamptonſhire, he gave him five ſhillings, begging he would not take notice of having ſeen him.

A reward being at length offered for apprehending Simms, he entered on board a privateer; but being ſoon weary of a ſea-faring life, he deſerted, and enliſted for a ſoldier. While in this ſtation he knocked out the eye of a woman at a

houſe

houſe of ill fame; for which he was apprehended and lodged in New Priſon.

Soon after this Juſtice De Veil admitted him an evidence againſt ſome felons, his accomplices, who were tranſported, and Simms regained his liberty.

Being apprehended for robbing a baker's ſhop, he was convicted, and being ſentenced to be tranſported, was accordingly ſhipped on board one of the tranſport-veſſels, which ſailing round to the Iſle of Wight, he formed a plan for ſeizing the captain, and effecting an eſcape: but as a ſtrict watch was kept on him, it was not poſſible for him to carry this plan into execution.

The ſhip arriving at Maryland, Simms was ſold for twelve guineas *, but he found an early opportunity of deſerting from the purchaſer. Having learnt that his maſter's horſe was left tied to a gate at ſome diſtance from the dwelling-houſe, he privately decamped in the night, and rode thirty miles in four hours, through extremely bad roads; ſo powerfully was he impelled by his fears.

He now found himſelf by the ſea-ſide, and, turning the horſe looſe, he hailed a veſſel juſt under ſail, from which a boat was ſent to bring him on board. As hands were very ſcarce, the captain offered him ſix guineas, which were readily accepted, to work his paſſage to England.

* The legality of ſelling tranſports as ſlaves hath been a ſubject of debate. To the eye of reaſon it ſhould ſeem that the captain hath no right to ſell them; for though they may have forfeited their claim to liberty in their own country, the law doth not ſentence them to ſlavery in another. They are only baniſhed for a time.

There being at this time a war between England and France, the ſhip was taken by a French privateer; but ſoon afterwards ranſomed; and Simms entered on board a man of war, where his diligence promoted him to the rank of a midſhipman; but the ſhip had no ſooner arrived at Plymouth than he quitted his duty, and travelling to Briſtol, ſpent the little money he poſſeſſed in the moſt diſſipated manner.

His next ſtep was to enter himſelf on board a coaſting-veſſel at Briſtol, but he had not been long at ſea before, on a diſpute with the captain, he threatened to throw him overboard, and would have carried his threats into execution if the other ſeamen had not prevented him. Simms aſked for his wages when the ſhip returned to port; but the captain threatening impriſonment for his ill behaviour at ſea, he decamped with only eight ſhillings in his poſſeſſion.

Fertile of contrivances, he borrowed a bridle and ſaddle, and having ſtolen a horſe in a field near the city, he went once more on the highway, and taking the road to London, robbed the paſſengers in the Briſtol coach, thoſe in another carriage, and a ſingle lady and gentleman, and repaired to London with the booty he had acquired.

Having put up the ſtolen horſe at an inn in Whitechapel, and ſoon afterwards ſeeing it advertiſed, he was afraid to fetch it: on which he ſtole another horſe; but as he was riding through Tyburn-Turnpike, the keeper knowing the horſe, brought the rider to the ground.

Hereupon Simms preſented a piſtol, and threatened the man with inſtant death if he preſumed to detain him. By this daring mode of proceeding

ing he obtained his liberty, and having made a tour round the fields, he entered London by another road.

On the following day he went to Kingſton upon Thames, where he ſtole a horſe; and he robbed ſeveral people on his return to London: and the day afterwards robbed ſeven farmers of eighteen pounds. His next depredations were on Epping-Foreſt, where he committed five robberies in one day, but ſoon ſpent what he thus gained among women of ill fame.

Thinking it unſafe to remain longer in London, he ſet out with a view to go to Ireland, but had rode only to Barnet when he croſſed the country to Harrow on the Hill, where he robbed a gentleman named Sleep of his money and watch; and would have taken his wig, but the other ſaid it was of no value, and hoped, as it was cold weather, his health might not be endangered by being deprived of it.

The robber threatened Mr. Sleep's life, unleſs he would ſwear never to take any notice of the affair; but this the gentleman abſolutely refuſed. Hereupon Simms ſaid that if he had not robbed him two other perſons would; and told him to ſay "Thomas" if he ſhould meet any people on horſeback.

Soon after this Mr. Sleep meeting two men whom he preſumed to be accomplices of the highwayman, cried out "Thomas:" but the travellers paying no regard to him, he was confirmed in his ſuſpicions, and rode after them; and, on his arrival at Hoddeſdon-Green, he found ſeveral other perſons, all of them in purſuit of the highwayman.

In the mean time Simms rode forwards, and robbed the St. Alban's ſtage; after which he went

as far as Hockliffe; but being now greatly fatigued, he fell aſleep in the kitchen of an inn, whither he was purſued by ſome light-horſemen from St. Albans, who took him into cuſtody.

Being confined for that night, he was carried in the morning before a magiſtrate, who committed him to Bedford Goal. By an unaccountable neglect, his piſtol had not been taken from him, and on his way to priſon he attempted to ſhoot one of his guards: but the piſtol miſſing fire, his hands were tied behind him; and when he arrived at the priſon he was faſtened to the floor, with an iron collar round his neck.

Being removed to London by a writ of habeas corpus, he was lodged in Newgate, where he was viſited, from motives of curioſity, by numbers of people whom he amuſed with a narrative of his having been employed to ſhoot the king.

On this he was examined before the Duke of Newcaſtle, then Secretary of State; but his whole ſtory bearing evident marks of a fiction, he was remanded to Newgate, to take his trial at the enſuing Old Bailey ſeſſions.

Ten indictments were preferred againſt him; but being convicted for the robbery of Mr. Sleep, it was not thought neceſſary to arraign him on any other of the indictments.

After conviction he behaved with great unconcern, and in ſome inſtances with inſolence. Having given a fellow-priſoner a violent blow, he was chained to the floor. He appeared ſhocked when the warrant for his execution arrived; but ſoon reſuming his former indifference, he continued it even to the moment of execution, when he behaved in the moſt thoughtleſs manner.

He was hanged at Tyburn on the 16th of November, 1746.

Young

Young people who read this narrative, will do well to reflect that Simms's fatal exit ſeems to have had its origin in his diſobedience to his grandmother, who had behaved towards him with the tenderneſs of a real parent. This youth had received a liberal education, which one would think might have helped to prevent his engaging in thoſe low connections which aſſiſted in bringing him to deſtruction.

His ſeveral eſcapes from puniſhment, and the variety of his adventures afterwards, ought to have taught him gratitude to that providence which had given him ſo many warnings to reform the error of his ways: but he ſeemed fully determined to ruſh on his own deſtruction.

What ſhall we ſay to a conduct ſo prepoſterous! If we did not know that man was a free agent, we might ſuppoſe that he had been impelled by a ſecret power that he could not reſiſt; but the fact is, that it was his vices which impelled him: from which we may learn that the effectual way not to be urged forward to evil, is to form a chriſtian reſolution never to depart from the line of virtue; and this, with the aſſiſtance of divine grace, will always anſwer the end propoſed.

Narrative of the Cauſe and Conſequences of the REBELLION which broke out in Scotland in the Year 1745.

HAVING given the hiſtory of the principal offenders who were executed for being concerned in the rebellion in 1715, our readers will naturally expect an account of thoſe who ſuf-

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ſered ſor the ſhare they had in the ſubſequent inſurrection; in which we ſhall be as particular as the limits of our plan will allow; and, in our narrative of the unfortunate offenders, endeavour to diveſt ourſelves of party prejudice as much as poſſible.

Great Britain being at war with France, and having an army in Flanders, the French thought that by making a deſcent in the north of Scotland, and fomenting a rebellion, the court of London would think it neceſſary to withdraw the troops from Flanders, which would enable the French to act with more effect againſt the allied army.

The French having fitted out a fleet at Breſt, in 1743, with a view of invading Great Britain, and Charles Stewart, ſon of the pretended prince of Wales, being on board, an Engliſh fleet from Spithead ſailed in queſt of the French, whom they drove back to their ports with conſiderable loſs.

In the ſummer of 1745 the French fitted out a ſhip at Port Lazare, on board of which were about fifty Iriſh and Scotch papiſts; and this veſſel being joined off Belliſle by a French man of war, having the pretender on board, they ſailed together, to coaſt the ſouthern parts of England, and make good a landing among the Weſtern Iſles of Scotland.

Captain Brett, in an Engliſh ſhip of war, falling in with them off the Land's-End, diſabled one of the French veſſels, ſo that ſhe was obliged to return to France; but the other, in which was the young pretender, proſecuted her voyage towards the north of Scotland, and arrived at the Iſle of Sky, oppoſite to Lochaber, in the county of Inverneſs, about the end of the month of July.

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The people being diſembarked, the pretender took up his reſidence with a papiſt named Macdonald, and continued with him about three weeks; and ſome of the Scottiſh clans, to the number of about two thouſand men, then joining him, he erected a ſtandard with the motto *Tandem Triumphans* *.

The rebels now marched towards Fort William, where the pretender publiſhed a manifeſto, which his father had ſigned at Rome; containing abundant promiſes to ſuch as would adhere to his cauſe; two of which were, a diſſolution of the union between the two kingdoms, and a payment of the national debt.

This circumſtance induced many of the ignorant country people to flock to his ſtandard, till at length his undiſciplined rabble began to aſſume the appearance of an army, which ſtruck terror to the well-affected wherever it came.

Theſe tranſactions, however, had not paſſed ſo ſecretly, but that the governor of Fort William informed the Lord Juſtice Clerk of Edinburgh of all he could learn of the affair; on which the latter diſpatched an expreſs to the north, ordering the aſſiſtance of all officers civil and military: and this expreſs arrived about the time that the pretender erected his ſtandard.

The governor of Fort William having received theſe orders, diſpatched two companies of the firſt regiment of foot to oppoſe the rebels; but many of the unhappy men fell a ſacrifice to their martial ardor, and ſeveral of the officers were made priſoners; though on giving their parole of honour they were afterwards releaſed.

* At length triumphant.

In the interim the Lord Juſtice Clerk ordered Sir John Cope, commander in chief of the forces in the ſouth of Scotland, to march againſt the rebels; but in making the circuit of the immenſe mountains of Argyleſhire, the two armies failed to meet; on which Sir John went to Inverneſs, to refreſh his troops after the fatigue of the march.

The armies having thus caſually miſſed each other, the rebels proceeded to Perth, and having taken poſſeſſion of that place, the pretender iſſued his orders for all perſons who were in poſſeſſion of public money to pay it into the hands of his ſecretary, whoſe receipts ſhould be a full acquittal for the ſame.

During the pretender's ſtay at Perth, ſeveral noblemen and gentlemen joined him, particularly lord George Murray, brother to the duke of Athol, and a perſon who aſſumed the title of duke of Perth; and theſe new adherents bringing with them their tenants and dependants, the rebel troops began to aſſume an air of conſequence; and the pretender was proclaimed at the Market-Croſs of Perth.

In the mean time general Cope ſent from Inverneſs an expreſs to Aberdeen, for the tranſport-veſſels in that harbour to be ready to receive his troops; and embarking on the eighteenth of September, he diſembarked them at Dunbar.

During theſe tranſactions general Gueſt, who commanded the caſtle of Edinburgh, gave the magiſtrates of that city ſeveral pieces of cannon for the defence of the place; and colonel James Gardiner repaired from Stirling to Edinburgh with two regiments of dragoons: but learning that general Cope had landed at Dunbar, which

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is twenty-ſeven miles eaſt of Edinburgh, he proceeded, to effect a juncture with that general.

The pretender and his adherents now marched to Dumblain, where, in a council of war, it was determined to croſs the Forth at Stirling; but one of the arches of the bridge having been deſtroyed by general Blakeney, the rebels were compelled to ford the river at a place three miles to the weſtward; which they effected without any loſs.

This being done, they marched to Callington, four miles from Edinburgh, and ſome volunteers of that city were diſpatched to prevent their proceeding farther: but the rebels wheeling ſouthwards, encamped that night at a village called Duddingſton; and on the following day the pretender proceeded through the Royal Park, and took poſſeſſion of Holyrood-Houſe.

The money in the bank of Edinburgh, and the records in the public offices, were now removed to the caſtle for ſecurity, and the gates of the city were kept faſt during the whole day: but five hundred of the rebels having concealed themſelves in the ſuburbs, took an opportunity, at four o'clock the next morning, to follow a coach which was going in, and ſeizing the gate called the Netherbow, they maintained their ground while the body reached the center of the city, and formed themſelves in the Parliament Cloſe.

Thus poſſeſſed of the capital, they ſeized two thouſand ſtand of arms, and, on the following day, marched to oppoſe the royal army under the command of general Cope: and the two armies being within ſight of each other near Preſton Pans on the evening of the twentieth, colonel Gardiner earneſtly recommended it to the general to attack them during the night: but deaf to this

advice, he kept the men under arms till morning, though they were already greatly harraſſed.

At five in the morning the rebels made a furious attack on the royal army, and threw them into unſpeakable confuſion, by two regiments of dragoons falling back on the foot. Colonel Gardiner, with five hundred foot, behaved with uncommon valour, and covered the retreat of thoſe who fled; but the colonel receiving a mortal wound, the rebels made priſoners of the reſt of the king's troops.

Fluſhed with this partial victory, the rebels returned in high ſpirits to Edinburgh, which was only ſeven miles diſtant from the place of action. They now ſent foraging parties through the country, with orders to ſeize all the horſes and waggons they could find: and in the interim a party of the inſurgents attempted to throw up an intrenchment on the caſtle hill. Hereupon the governor, neceſſitated to oppoſe the aſſailants, yet anxious for the ſafety of the inhabitants, ſent a meſſenger in the night, to intimate to thoſe who lived near the caſtle hill, that they would do well to remove out of danger.

As ſoon as it was day-light, the battery of the rebels was deſtroyed by a diſcharge of the great cannon from the Half-Moon, and thirty of them killed, with three of the inhabitants, who had raſhly ventured near the ſpot.

The governor being greatly deficient in proviſions, a gentleman ordered above fifty fine bullocks to be driven into the city, on a pretence that they were for the uſe of the rebels; and the perſons who drove them leaving them on the caſtle hill, the governor and five hundred men ſallied forth, and drove them in at the gate, while

the rebels played their artillery with unremitting fury.

While the rebels continued in Edinburgh, which was about ſeven weeks, ſome noblemen and their adherents joined them; ſo that their army amounted to almoſt ten thouſand men. They now levied large contributions, not only in Edinburgh, but through the adjacent country; and thoſe who furniſhed them received receipts, ſigned "CHARLES, *Prince Regent.*"

In the interim ſome ſhips from France arrived in the Forth, laden with ammunition; and a perſon who attended the pretender was dignified with the title of ambaſſador from his moſt chriſtian majeſty.

General Wade had now the command of ſome forces which had reached Yorkſhire; and ſome Dutch troops being ſent to augment his forces, he marched his troops to Newcaſtle, with a view to deter the rebels from entering the ſouthern part of the kingdom.

That celebrated prelate, the late Dr. Herring, archbiſhop of York, diſtinguiſhed himſelf glorioufly on this intereſting occaſion. Joining with the high-ſheriff to aſſemble the freeholders, the archbiſhop preached an animated ſermon to them; and then the ſeveral parties agreed to aſſiſt each other in ſupport of their civil and religious rights. Many people in Yorkſhire were prevented from engaging in the rebellion by this ſpirited, and well-timed conduct.

The Lord Preſident Forbes, and the earl of Loudon, acted in a manner equally zealous in Scotland. Having collected a number of the loyal Highlanders into a body, many others who would have joined the rebels were thereby deterred; and this proceeding proved of the moſt eſ-

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ſential ſervice towards the ſuppreſſion of the rebellion.

The rebels quitting Edinburgh in the beginning of November, marched to Dalkeith, where they encamped; and a report was circulated that they propoſed to make an attack on Berwick; but this was only a contrivance to conceal their real deſigns.

In the mean time more than a thouſand of the rebels deſerted, in conſequence of general Wade's publiſhing a pardon to ſuch as would return to their duty as good ſubjects, within a limited time. Still, however, the rebels had above eight thouſand men able to bear arms; yet general Wade would have marched to attack them, but that his ſoldiers were ill of the flux, owing to the ſeverity of the ſeaſon and the fatigues they had undergone.

The rebels advanced to Carliſle on the 9th of November, and demanded that the garriſon ſhould ſurrender: which was refuſed for ſome days; but a ſcarcity of proviſions rendering longer reſiſtance uſeleſs, the governor delivered up the city, into which the rebels entered, and the pretender was proclaimed.

The ſurrender of Carliſle being made known to general Wade, he marched from Newcaſtle with ſuch of his troops as were in any condition to move; and the firſt diviſion reached Hexham in the afternoon of the ſeventeenth of November, the ſecond arriving at the ſame place about midnight: but the general found it expedient to return to Newcaſtle with the third, who were unable to bear the fatigue of proſecuting the march. The inhabitants of Newcaſtle ſubſcribed to purchaſe flannel waiſtcoats for thoſe diſtreſſed men, and furniſhed them with the beſt accommodations in their power.

About

About this period King George the II. arriving in London, from a viſit to his German dominions, both houſes of parliament immediately aſſembled, and a bill was paſſed for ſuſpending the habeas corpus act for ſix months; by which the king was, for that period, empowered to ſeize all ſuſpected perſons, and commit them to priſon, without ſpecifying the reaſon of ſuch commitment *.

The effects of this act were the apprehenſion and commitment of many ſuſpected perſons in both kingdoms: but it did not appear to ſtop the progreſs of the rebellion; for the inſurgents had by this time reached Mancheſter, where they raiſed a regiment conſiſting chiefly of Roman Catholics.

The whole kingdom was now in a ferment, and every loyal ſubject was anxious for his perſonal ſecurity. The duke of Cumberland being now in Flanders, it was judged adviſeable to ſend for him to take the command of the king's forces.

About the time he arrived in London, the rebels had advanced as far as Derby: but his royal highneſs loſt no time in travelling into Staffordſhire, where he collected all the force he could, to ſtop their farther inroads into the kingdom.

The duke now expected a junction of the forces under general Wade, who had marched from Newcaſtle to Darlington, and taking a weſtward courſe, had ſtationed his troops near Wetherby. The rebels having advice of this motion, it was propoſed by ſome of them to march into North Wales; but others oppoſed this, on the preſumption

* This is a privilege dangerous to the rights of Britons, and never truſted even in the hands of the ſovereign, but in caſes of the utmoſt emergency.

tion that they ſhould then be ſurrounded by the royal army, and compelled to ſurrender themſelves priſoners at diſcretion, as they would have no opportunity of retreating to Scotland.

The rebels while at Derby held frequent councils reſpecting their proceedings, and the inhabitants of the place remarked that the principal men among them ſeemed very low in ſpirits; and this dejection was encreaſed when they heard that an Engliſh man of war had taken a ſhip bound from France for their uſe, laden with arms and money.

General Wade having reviewed his troops at Wetherby on the fifth of December, marched to join the duke of Cumberland in Staffordſhire; ſo that the rebels were compelled to retreat northwards, in hope of ſupplies which had been promiſed them from France. At this time they received the agreeable news that John lord Drummond had defeated the Highlanders commanded by the earl of Loudon, and had arrived at Perth with three thouſand men.

This laſt article of intelligence ſomewhat encouraged them: and having raiſed what money they could at Derby, they proceeded to Manchester, in their way to which they damaged the high-ways, and deſtroyed the bridges, to retard the progreſs of the king's troops. They were now in poſſeſſion of fifteen pieces of cannon, ſome of which they brought from Carliſle, and others from Edinburgh: but moſt of theſe were uſeleſs, for want of engineers to work them.

The pretender reaching Manchester on the 9th of December, his ſoldiers were treated very contemptuouſly by ſome people of the town; on which Mr. Murray, ſecretary to the young adventurer, iſſued an order for the payment of two thou-

thouſand five hundred pounds, on pain of military execution.

The rebels now proceeded by the way of Preſton and Lancaſter to Kendal, at which laſt place they halted one night; but ſome of the inhabitants fired guns from their windows; ſo exaſperated were they againſt them.

In the interim the king's troops, under the command of the duke of Cumberland and Sir John Ligonier, arrived near Litchfield, where orders were iſſued to diſtreſs the rebels to the utmoſt. Sir John commanded the fort; but the duke put himſelf at the head of the dragoons, with a view of coming up with the rebels, and in the hope of meeting general Wade near Kendal or Lancaſter.

Mr. Wade having held a council of war at Ferrybridge, it was determined to march northward; but on the arrival of the army at Wakefield, intelligence was brought that the rebels had retired; on which Mr. Wade diſpatched the dragoons, under the command of general Ogelthorpe, to join his royal highneſs; while himſelf retreated to Newcaſtle with the infantry.

Though the ſeaſon was ſevere, and the roads inexpreſſibly bad, Mr. Ogelthorpe, by means of forced marches, conducted his troops a hundred miles in three days, and joined the duke of Cumberland at Lancaſter, on the 14th of December. Here the dragoons were reviewed by his royal highneſs; and on the following day they marched to Kendal, in the hope of overtaking the rebels: but the latter retreated on hearing of their advance.

His royal highneſs overtaking the rebels at Clifton on the eighteenth, diſlodged them from

that place after a ſharp rencounter. While the royal army was engaged with the rear of the rebels, the main body of the latter retired to Carliſle, where they left five hundred of their Lancaſhire troops in garriſon; and on the following day purſued their rout for Scotland, in three diviſions. Several of them were drowned in croſsing the River Eſk; and the duke arrived at Carliſle, and ſummoned it to ſurrender, the day after they had quitted it. Some heſitation was at firſt made; but the duke ſending o Whitehaven for ſome artillery, offers of capitulation were made by the rebels.

On this his royal highneſs returned an anſwer, importing that their ſubmiſſion muſt be unconditional; for that he could not make terms with rebels; whereupon they all ſurrendered; and being taken into the cathedral, were there handcuffed, and conveyed to different priſons. This ſervice being performed; and information being received that the French had an intention of invading England, the duke of Cumberland went to London, to give his advice as a privy counſellor, in conſequence of an expreſs demanding his attendance.

Lord Loudon ſo exerted himſelf while the rebels were gone into England, that he prevented many parties of Highlanders from joining them. A thouſand men were raiſed at Edinburgh, and a like number at Glaſgow: on which the pretender ordered the people of Glaſgow to pay 30,000l. on pain of military execution; and with this order they were obliged to comply.

Three bodies of the rebels from Carliſle meeting near Glaſgow on the laſt day of the year 1745, marched to Stirling, which they ſummoned to ſurrender. The town being indefenſible, the

the magiſtrates threw open the gates; and a ſummons was ſent to general Blakeney, to ſurrender the caſtle: but this he abſolutely refuſed, ſaying that he would defend it to the utmoſt extremity. On this the rebels began to beſiege it; but receiving intelligence that general Hawley had marched to Linlithgow, they abandoned the ſiege, and met the army under that general's command near Falkirk.

General Hawley drew up his troops to the beſt poſſible advantage on the 17th of January, and an engagement enſued; but many of the ſoldiers could not fire their muſkets, owing to ſome ſnow and rain which fell at the time. The dragoons, who had given way at Preſton-Pans, now again retreated; and if general Huſke had not rallied a ſquare battalion of infantry, the rebels would have ſurrounded the king's troops. Many officers fell in this action; and at length victory declaring for the rebels, the royal army retreated to Linlithgow, and thence to Edinburgh.

On the following day the rebels buried their dead; and then marching back to Stirling, again ſummoned general Blakeney to ſurrender: but his anſwer was, that he would be buried under the ruins of the caſtle, ſooner than yield it into their hands. On this they began a ſecond ſiege; but having only ſeven pieces of cannon, their efforts were very feeble, while many of them were deſtroyed by the guns from the caſtle; on which they raiſed the ſiege ſoon afterwards.

The king's officers, who had been made priſoners at Preſton-Pans, were ſent to Perth; but the inhabitants of that place riſing while the pretender was at Stirling, reſcued the priſoners, and conducting them to Edinburgh, they were very

ſerviceable in the operations of the enſuing campaign.

A general apprehenſion for the public ſafety now prevailed throughout Scotland; and a minute narrative of the ſtate of affairs being from time to time tranſmitted to London, it was at length reſolved in council to take ſuch ſteps as might effectually cruſh the rebellion.

Hereupon the duke of Cumberland ſet out for Scotland, and arrived at Edinburgh on the thirtieth of January, to the great joy of all the loyal ſubjects; and taking the command of the army, immediately marched in purſuit of the rebels. The army was in three diviſions: and his royal highneſs halted the firſt night at Linlithgow; while general Mordaunt marched towards Falkirk, to ſecure the roads and bridges.

On the following day the rebels blew up the church of St. Ninian's, containing their magazine of powder; and then croſſed the Forth above Stirling, in great confuſion. On this general Mordaunt purſued them at the head of the dragoons, and Argyleſhire men, but diſcontinued the purſuit on his arrival at Stirling. When his royal highneſs reached Stirling he went to the caſtle, and expreſſed his approbation of general Blakeney's conduct, in terms highly honourable to that commander.

The rebels proceeding northwards, lord John Drummond, and lord Lewis Gordon joined them with ſome auxiliary forces; but ſuch a diſtraction now prevailed in their councils, and they were ſo apprehenſive of failure in their grand attempt, that they were almoſt reduced to deſpair.

In the mean time the expedition undertaken by the duke of Cumberland, was conducted with equal

equal diligence and ſucceſs. It was but about a week from his leaving London, till he ſaw the rebels flying before him; while the loyal Scots hailed him as one ſent from heaven to their relief. The rebels were now much diſheartened; but in order to keep up the ſpirits of their party, they propagated a report that ſome troops from France were to be landed to aſſiſt them; and that they ſhould be able to harraſs the king's troops by removing the ſeat of war to the Highlands.

Their deſigns being penetrated by the duke of Cumberland, and his generals, the royal army marched to Perth, where a great number of volunteers joined them; and thence to Aberdeen; the king's troops ſuſtaining the rigours of the ſeaſon with a ſpirit that did them honour.

Several towns between Aberdeen and Inverneſs being in poſſeſſion of the rebels; particularly Strathbogie; the generals Mordaunt and Bland forced them from that place, where there were more than a thouſand of them, under the command of colonel Roy Stewart, who had come from France with the young pretender. At this time a ſhip arrived from France, with ſome caſh for the rebels, who circulated a report that the ſum was very large; though this was far from being the truth.

His royal highneſs marched from Aberdeen on the eighth of April, and encamped near Culloden, where lord Albemarle joined him; and on the following day the combined army paſſed the river Spey, without any material loſs.

While they paſſed this river the rebels were within view, but they retired haſtily towards Elgin, and were purſued by Kingſton's light horſe, and the Highlanders of Argyleſhire, but not in time to effect any important ſervice.

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The king's troops arriving at Nairn on the fifteenth of the month, the rebels intended to have ſurprized them; but their plan was rendered abortive by the ſagacious conduct of the duke of Cumberland, who reviewed his troops on this day; but the rebels came to a reſolution to engage on the following.

His royal highneſs drew up his forces in order of battle on the morning of the ſixteenth, but the rebels not appearing in ſight, the army marched by defiles, and continued this motion till between twelve and one o'clock, when they ſaw the rebels; and then the army formed in three lines, being flanked by the dragoons, and ſupported by the artillery.

The rebels began the engagement by a furious attack, which the king's army received with the calmeſt intrepidity. The rebels were ſo annoyed by the fire from the royal artillery, that in leſs than a quarter of an hour their ranks were broken; and the wings of their army being out-flanked by the dragroons, the center gave way, and the rebels fled towards Inverneſs. Kingſton's light horſe purſuing them at full ſpeed, the roads were covered with the bodies of unhappy wretches, who fell ſacrifices to that obedience they had been taught was due to their tyrannical chiefs.

General Mordaunt, at the head of a party of dragoons, was ſent in purſuit of thoſe who ſtill continued in arms, whom he followed beyond Inverneſs, and totally routed them. The young pretender eſcaped to the houſe of lord Lovat, where he was diſguiſed in the dreſs of a woman, to prevent his falling into the hands of the king's troops.

It would be equally foreign to the purpoſe of this work, and endleſs, to recount the innumerable

able difficulties he ſuſtained, and the hardſhips he endured, before his final eſcape from theſe kingdoms. After quitting the houſe of lord Lovat, he repaired to the Iſle of Sky, where he lodged in holes of the rocks, and ſupported the calls of nature with the utmoſt difficulty.

At length, after numberleſs hazards, and imminent eſcapes, for the ſpace of four months, a French frigate arrived off the weſtern iſlands of Scotland, in which he embarked, and was ſafely landed in France.

It appears upon the whole, that this expedition, ſo hopeleſs of procuring any advantage to the adventurer, was merely a political ſtroke of the court of France: and that the pretender himſelf was but a wretched tool to forward the ambitious deſigns of that ever reſtleſs and perfidious court.

We ſhall now proceed to give an account of the principal perſons who ſuffered either from their premeditated, or unguarded attachment to a cauſe which brought ruin and deſtruction on the heads of its abettors; and though it involved the nation in confuſion for ſome time, did, in the end, more firmly eſtabliſh the illuſtrious houſe of Brunſwick on the throne.

Soon after the deciſive battle of Culloden, the earls of KILMARNOCK and CROMARTIE, and lord BALMERINO, were taken into cuſtody: and lord LOVAT was afterwards apprehended on a charge of having given advice and aſſiſtance to the pretender.

Lord Kilmarnock, who was diſtinguiſhed by the comelineſs of his appearance, was brought up in the profeſſion of the Preſbyterian faith; ſo that

that his joining the rebels may be deemed the more extraordinary, as there is no religion farther removed from Popery than that of the Preſbytery of Scotland: but his lordſhip had married a lady who was ſtrongly attached to Jacobitical principles, and who made repeated efforts to convert him to her political ſentiments: but, if the accounts tranſmitted to us are true, he reſiſted all her arguments till within a few months of the landing of the pretender; when having applied to the miniſtry for a place under the government, and his ſuit being rejected, he became determined with regard to his future conduct.

Lord Cromartie derived his deſcent from a family which had a kind of hereditary attachment to the houſe of Stuart. James the ſecond had advanced his grandfather to the dignity of an earldom, for ſupporting him in his unjuſtifiable views againſt the rights and privileges of his ſubjects.

Lord Balmerino, as well as the earl of Cromartie, was a non-juror. He was the youngeſt ſon of the preceding lord Balmerino, and ſucceeded to the title but juſt before the battle of Culloden. He had been concerned in the rebellion in 1715, but received a pardon through the interceſſion of his friends. This nobleman was diſtinguiſhed by his courage, and his ſkill as a ſwordſman; nor was he leſs diſtinguiſhed by his firm adherence to the principles he had imbibed, as we ſhall ſee in the ſequel.

Lord Lovat profeſſed the Roman Catholic religion. He poſſeſſed conſummate abilities, and was profoundly learned: nor was his ſkill in political matters inferior to his other acquirements: but he ſeems to have wanted goodneſs of heart,

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and ſteadineſs of principle. As his talents for government were confeſſedly great, it is ſuppoſed that the Engliſh miniſtry refuſing to employ him, determined him with regard to the ſhare he took in the rebellion. The duplicity of his conduct is obvious; for while he affected an attachment to the royal family, he held a correſpondence with the pretender, who ſent him a patent of creation to a dukedom; and indeed the advice of this crafty old peer chiefly contributed to the commencement and continuance of the rebellion.

The lords Kilmarnock, Cromartie and Balmerino being, in the month of July, 1746, brought up to anſwer for their crimes before the houſe of peers aſſembled in Weſtminſter-hall, the two former pleaded guilty: but lord Balmerino pleaded not guilty; on which he was put on his trial, and convicted on the fulleſt evidence.

When the unfortunate noblemen were carried up to receive ſentence, Cromartie and Kilmarnock moſt humbly beſought the peers to make intereſt with the king in their favour: but Balmerino ſcorned to aſk ſuch a favour, and ſmiled at his approaching fate.

Great intereſt being exerted to ſave the earls, it was hinted to Balmerino, that his friends ought to exert themſelves in his behalf; to which, with great magnanimity, he only replied, "I am very "indifferent about my own fate; but had the "two noble lords been my friends, they would "have ſqueezed my name in among theirs."

The counteſs of Cromartie, who had a very large family of young children, was inceſſant in her applications for the pardon of her huſband, to obtain which ſhe took a very plauſible method. She procured herſelf to be introduced to the late

princeſs of Wales, attended by her children in mourning; and urged her ſuit in the moſt ſuppliant terms. The princeſs had at that time ſeveral children. Such an argument could ſcarcely fail to move; and a pardon was granted to lord Cromartie, on the condition that he ſhould never reſide north of the River Trent. This condition was literally complied with; and his lordſhip died in Soho-ſquare in the year 1766.

Orders being given for the execution of the lords Kilmarnock and Balmerino, on the 18th of Auguſt, 1746, a ſcaffold was erected on Tower-hill, and the coffins were placed on the ſcaffold, while the ſheriffs went to the Tower, to demand the bodies of the devoted victims to public juſtice.

When the ſufferers were brought out of the Tower, Kilmarnock ſaid, "God ſave king "George;" but Balmerino, ſtill true to his former principles, exclaimed, "God ſave king "James."

The way to the place of execution was lined by ſoldiers of the foot-guards, and parties of the horſe and grenadier guards cloſed the proceſſion to the fatal ſpot, where they had no ſooner arrived than the noblemen were conducted to different apartments, appropriated to the purpoſes of their private devotions. Lord Kilmarnock was attended by that eminent diſſenting miniſter, Dr. Foſter, who had frequently viſited him during his confinement.

A clergyman of the eſtabliſhed church attended lord Balmerino; and it was remarked that as he paſſed to the place of execution, ſome of the ſpectators ſaid "Which is lord Balmerino?" To which he chearfully replied, "I am lord Balme-"rino, gentlemen, at your ſervice."

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This brave and unfortunate man, evidently a ſufferer from principle, having obtained permiſſion from the ſheriffs to ſpeak with lord Kilmarnock, aſked him "if he knew of any orders "given, previous to the battle of Culloden, "that no priſoners ſhould be ſuffered to live." Kilmarnock denied any knowledge of ſuch orders; on which Balmerino ſaid, "Then it is one "of their own inventions, contrived on purpoſe "to juſtify their conduct."

The unfortunate ſufferers having taken a final leave of each other, lord Kilmarnock and his friends joined in prayer with Dr. Foſter, after which his lordſhip drank a glaſs of wine, and ate a biſcuit. He then applied to one of the ſheriffs, requeſting that the ſentence of the law might be firſt executed on lord Balmerino: but this, he was told could not be complied with, as his name ſtood firſt in the warrant of execution. Hereupon he took leave of his friends; ſaid he ſhould not addreſs the people on the occaſion; and having deſired Dr. Foſter to attend him to the laſt fatal moment, aſcended the ſteps of the ſcaffold. So extreme was his penitence, ſo pungent his ſorrow, that the ſurrounding multitude no ſooner ſaw him, than they burſt into tears.

On the ſight of the coffin, block, and hatchet, he turned about to a friend, and ſaid "This is "terrible!" He then kneeled down, and prayed devoutly: and the whole of his conduct ſo affected the executioner that he fainted; but was recovered by the help of a glaſs of wine. The man then entreated his lordſhip's pardon; when the latter bad him reaſſume his courage, and told him that when he had finiſhed his devotions, he would drop his handkerchief, as a ſignal for the ſtroke.

His lordſhip's friends now aſſiſted him in preparing for the dreadful fate that awaited him; but a conſiderable time was loſt in tucking his hair, which was very long, under a night-cap. During this dreadful interval he ſeemed agitated with a thouſand fears; his body was convulſed by the horrors of his mind; and when he knelt down to the block he laid his hands over it; a circumſtance that again intimidated the executioner, who deſired him to remove his hands, which was accordingly done: but now it was diſcovered that his waiſtcoat was in the way; on which he aroſe, and being aſſiſted by his ſervant in taking it off, he again kneeled down; and after a ſhort time ſpent in prayer, he dropped his handkerchief; and his head, except a ſmall piece of ſkin, was ſevered at one ſtroke, the head being received in a cloth of red baize, was put into the coffin with the body, and conveyed to the Tower.

During great part of this ſolemn interval lord Balmerino exerciſed himſelf in devotion, and then converſed with his friends, with an aſtoniſhing degree of eaſe and fortitude. Every one preſent wept but himſelf; who ſeemed poſſeſſed with a conſcious integrity of mind that ſupported him in this arduous trial.

Saw-duſt being ſtrewed over the ſcaffold, to hide the blood, the under ſheriff attended lord Balmerino, when the latter, preventing what he was going to ſay, aſked if lord Kilmarnock had ſuffered; and put ſome queſtions reſpecting the executioner.

His queſtions being anſwered, he ſaid to his friends, "Gentlemen, I ſhall detain you no "longer;" and having taken his leave of them with an air of great unconcern, walked to the

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ſcaffold in ſo intrepid a manner as to aſtoniſh all the ſpectators.

Going up to the executioner, he took the axe from his hand, and having attentively regarded it, clapped him on the ſhoulder as an encouragement not to be fearful in the diſcharge of his office. Then going to the extremity of the ſcaffold, he enquired for the hearſe, and deſired that it might be drawn nearer; which was readily complied with.

Having thrown his coat, waiſtcoat, and neck-cloth on his coffin, he put on a flannel waiſtcoat, and taking out of his pocket a plaid night-cap, he put it on his head, and ſaid "I will die like a "Scotchman."

Having fitted his neck to the block, he ſpoke a ſhort time to the executioner, and then addreſſed the ſpectators as follows; "Perhaps ſome "perſons may think my behaviour too bold, "but remember, I now declare it is the effect of "confidence in God, and a good conſcience; "and I ſhould diſſemble if I exhibited any ſign "of fear."

Having placed his head on the block, he ſtretched out his arms, and prayed in the following words: "O Lord, reward my friends, for-"give my enemies, and receive my ſoul."

This ſaid, he gave the ſignal for the ſtroke; but the executioner was ſo affected by the magnanimity of his behaviour, that he ſtruck him three times before the head parted from the body. It was received in a piece of red baize, as lord Kilmarnock's had been; and a hearſe having conveyed the deceaſed to the Tower, he was interred in the ſame grave with the marquis of Tullibardine, who died during his impriſonment.

The

The earl of Kilmarnock and lord Balmerino were executed on the 18th of April, 1746.

Lord Lovat was the laſt in the rank of peerage who ſuffered on account of the rebellion. He was a man of uncommon abilities, and refined education; was more than eighty years old at the time of his death, and had acted a more unaccountable part in life, than almoſt any other man: and perhaps it may be ſaid with truth, that inſincerity, and want of principle, were the diſtinguiſhing marks of his character.

The following, among other inſtances, will prove the extravagance of his conduct. Having addreſſed the heireſs of Lovat in 1693, a marriage might have enſued, but that the lady was engaged to lord Salton's ſon. On this Lovat took ſome of his dependants to the houſe of that nobleman, and having cauſed a gibbet to be erected, ſwore he would hang the father and ſon, except all pretenſions to the young lady were reſigned.

This was complied with through terror, and even the contract of marriage given up; and he now intended to have ſeized the young lady's perſon; but her mother, a widow lady, having ſecreted her, he was determined on revenge; on which he went to the houſe of the mother, and taking a clergyman with him, and being attended by ſeveral armed ruffians, he compelled the old lady to marry one of the perſons who came with him. This being done, he cut off her ſtays, and obliged her to go to bed; and he with his aſſociates waited till the conſummation of this forced marriage.

For this infamous tranſaction Lovat was tried as an acceſſary to the rape, and was capitally con-

convicted; but received a pardon from the ill-timed lenity of king William the third.

Going to France in 1698, he turned Papiſt, by which he acquired the good opinion of the abdicated king James the ſecond, who employed him to raiſe recruits in Scotland; but he revealed the ſubſtance of his commiſſion to the Britiſh miniſtry: which circumſtance being diſcovered by ſome Scotch catholics, an account of it was tranſmitted to France; ſo that on his next viſit to that country, in the year 1702, he was lodged in the Baſtile, where he continued ſome years; but at length obtaining his liberty, he went to St. Omers, where he entered into the order of Jeſuits.

Returning to Scotland on the demiſe of Queen Anne, he ſucceeded to the title of Lovat, to which a good fortune was annexed; but in the following year, when the pretender landed in Scotland, he for a while abetted his cauſe; but finding his intereſt decline, he raiſed a regiment in oppoſition to him. This latter part of his conduct coming to the knowledge of king George the firſt, Lovat was ſent for to court, where he was highly careſſed.

At the time he was ſupporting the rebellion of 1745 with men and money, the lord preſident Forbes wrote to him, and conjured him in the moſt earneſt manner to take a deciſive and vigorous part in behalf of government: and Lovat anſwered him in ſuch a manner, as ſeemed to imply an aſſent to all he urged; though at this very time the men he had ſent to aſſiſt the rebels were commanded by his own ſon.

He was apprehended in his own houſe, ſome days after the battle of Culloden, by a party of dragoons: but being ſo infirm that he could not walk, he was carried in a horſe litter to Inverneſs, whence

whence he was ſent in a landau to Edinburgh, under the eſcort of a party of dragoons.

Having been lodged one night in the caſtle, he was conveyed to London, and committed to the Tower, only two days before Kilmarnock and Balmerino ſuffered the dreadful ſentence of the law.

Several of the witneſſes whoſe preſence was judged neceſſary on the trial of lord Lovat reſiding in the north of Scotland, is was thought proper to poſtpone it till the commencement of the following year; and he was accordingly brought to his trial before the houſe of peers in Weſtminſter-hall on the 9th of March, 1747, lord chancellor Hardwick preſiding on the ſolemn occaſion.

On the firſt day of the trial lord Lovat objected to a witneſs, becauſe he was his tenant; but his competency to give his depoſition being allowed, after long arguments, he depoſed that his lordſhip had been active in raiſing ſupplies for the pretender, who had made a deſcent on the kingdom in conſequence of his advice.

This was the ſubſtance of the firſt day's proceedings; and a great part of the ſecond was ſpent in debates reſpecting the admiſſibility of Mr. Murray, who had been ſecretary to the pretender, as an evidence. It was urged that his evidence could not be allowed, as he ſtood attainted: but the attorney general having read the record of the attainder, and produced the king's pardon, all farther objections fell to the ground.

On the following day Mr. Murray was examined, and proved that lord Lovat had aſſiſted the rebels with men and money; and that he had commiſſioned two of his ſons to cauſe his tenants to take arms in behalf of the pretender.

Lord

Lord Lovat's ſervants proved that the pretender had been aſſiſted with money by his lordſhip: and on the fourth day ſeveral gentlemen from the highlands gave their teſtimony to the ſame purpoſe.

The evidence for the crown being ſummed up on the fifth day, lord Lovat was acquainted by the lord-high-ſteward that he muſt prepare for his defence; and, accordingly, on the ſixth day, his lordſhip inſiſted that the parties who had given evidence againſt him were his enemies, and that they had been induced to give their teſtimony by threats or ſubornation *; and he endeavoured to ſupport his allegations by the depoſitions of two highlanders; but what they ſaid had little influence againſt the concurrent teſtimony of the other witneſſes.

The peers being aſſembled in parliament on the ſeventh day, determined on their verdict, and having returned to Weſtminſter hall, the culprit was informed by the lord high-ſteward, that he had been found guilty by his peers. To this Lovat ſaid that he had been ill treated while under misfortunes; and this he declared with ſo much acrimony, that the high-ſteward reproved him for the indecency of his behaviour, and then paſſed on him the ſentence of the law.

After conviction lord Lovat behaved with uncommon chearfulneſs, appearing by no means intimidated at the fate that awaited him. His friends adviſing him to apply for the royal mercy, he declined it, ſaying that the remnant of his life was not worth aſking for. He was always

* This ſeems to be a contradiction, for if they were his enemies, it was not neceſſary either to threaten or ſuborn them.

chearful in company; entertained his friends with ſtories, and applied many paſſages of the Greek and Roman hiſtory to his own caſe.

On the arrival of the warrant for his execution, lord Lovat read it, and preſſing the gentleman who brought it to drink a bottle of wine with him, entertained him with ſuch a number of ſtories as aſtoniſhed the viſitor, that his lordſhip ſhould have ſuch ſpirits on ſo ſolemn an occaſion.

The major of the Tower enquiring after his health one morning, he ſaid, "I am well ſir; I "am preparing myſelf for a place where hardly "any majors go, and but few lieutenant-gene-"rals." Having procured a pillow to be placed at the foot of his bed, he frequently kneeled on it, to try how he ſhould act his part at the fatal block; and, after ſome practice, thought himſelf ſufficiently perfect to behave with propriety.

Waking about two in the morning on the day before his death, he prayed devoutly for ſome time, and then ſlept till near ſeven, when he was dreſſed by the aſſiſtance of the warder. This day he ſpent with his friends, converſing chearfully both on public and private affairs. He was even jocoſe in a high degree, and told the barber who ſhaved him to be cautious not to cut his throat, which might baulk many perſons of the expected fight on the following day. Having eaten a hearty ſupper, he deſired that ſome veal might be roaſted, that he might have ſome of it minced for his breakfaſt, being a diſh of which he was extremely fond. He then ſmoaked his pipe, and retired to reſt.

Waking about three in the morning, he employed ſome time in devotion, and then repoſing himſelf till five o'clock, he aroſe, and drank a

glaſs

glaſs of wine and water, as he was accuſtomed to do every morning. He then employed himſelf about two hours in reading, which he could do without ſpectacles, notwithſtanding his advanced age: for he had lived a life of temperance, and his eye-ſight was uncommonly good.

He now converſed in his cuſtomary manner; exhibiting no ſign of apprehenſion; and at eight o'clock ſent his wig to the barber; and alſo deſired the warder to purchaſe a purſe, in which to put the money that he intended for the executioner; and he particularly deſired that it might be a good one, leſt the man ſhould refuſe it.

The warder bringing two purſes, his lordſhip took one, which though he did not entirely approve of, he ſaid he thought few perſons would refuſe it with ten guineas for its contents.

Having called for his breakfaſt of minced veal, he ate heartily of it, and drank ſome wine and water, to the health of his ſurrounding friends. The coffin, with his name and age, and decorated with ornaments proper to his rank, being placed on the ſcaffold, Mr. Sheriff Alſop went to the gate of the Tower at eleven o'clock, to demand the body. This intelligence being conveyed to lord Lovat, he requeſted a few minutes for his private devotions; in which being indulged, he returned chearfully, and ſaid "Gentlemen, I am "ready;" and having deſcended one pair of ſtairs, general Williamſon requeſted him to repoſe himſelf a few minutes in his apartment.

Complying with this invitation, he ſtaid about five minutes, behaved with the utmoſt politeneſs to the company, and having drank a glaſs of wine, got into the governor's coach, which conveyed him to the gate of the tower, where he was received by the ſheriffs. Being conducted to a

houſe near the ſcaffold, he told the ſheriff " he " might give the word of command when he " pleaſed;" " for (added he) I have been long " in the army, and know what it is to obey." Having drank ſome burnt brandy and bitters, he aſcended the ſcaffold, and taking a ſurvey of the ſurrounding multitude, he expreſſed his aſtoniſhment that ſuch numbers could aſſemble to witneſs the decollation of ſo antient a head.

Obſerving a friend on the ſcaffold who appeared very deſponding, he put his hand on his ſhoulder, and ſaid, " Cheer up thy heart, man; I am " not afraid, and why ſhould'ſt thou?" Then giving the purſe of gold to the executioner, he bad him act his part properly, ſaying, " If you " do not, and I am able to riſe again, I ſhall be " much diſpleaſed with you."

He now ſat down in a chair, and having repeated ſome ſentimental lines from the claſſic authors, he ſtripped himſelf, and laid his head on the block. After a few minutes ſpent in devotion, he dropped his handkerchief; on which his head was cut off; and being received in a cloth of red baize, was put into the coffin with the body, and conveyed to the Tower in a hearſe.

Immenſe crouds of ſpectators were on ſcaffolds on Tower-hill, to behold the final exit of this extraordinary man; but ſome of them paid dear for their curioſity; for, before he was brought out of the Tower, one of the ſcaffolds broke down; by which ſeveral perſons were killed on the ſpot, and a great number had their bones broken, and were otherwiſe terribly bruiſed; to the diſtreſs of many families, and the total ruin of others. Thus was this man, whoſe life had been a ſcene of tyranny, and perfidious duplicity, the occaſion of injuring

injuring many others, almoſt in the moment of his death.

Lord Lovat was beheaded on the 9th of April, 1747.

Thus having recited an account of ſuch peers as ſuffered for the ſhare they took in the rebellion; we ſhall give a compleat narrative of the fate of thoſe of inferior rank, whoſe lives were ſacrificed to their ill placed attachment to a hopeleſs cauſe.

CHARLES RATCLIFFE, Eſq; (brother of lord Derwentwater, who ſuffered in 1716) having been taken priſoner at Preſton, was conducted to London, where being tried and convicted, he was impriſoned in Newgate, but received repeated reprieves; and it was thought he would have been pardoned, in conſideration of his youth. Being lodged in a room called the caſtle, he and thirteen other priſoners eſcaped to the debtors ſide of the priſon, where the turnkey let them out, on a ſuppoſition that they were viſitors to ſome of the unfortunate debtors.

Thus at large, Mr. Ratcliffe embarked for France, from whence he went to Rome, where he obtained a trifling penſion from the pretender. After a reſidence of ſome years in Italy, he went to Paris, where he married the widow of lord Newburgh *, by whom he had one ſon.

Coming to England in 1733, he lived ſome time in London; but no notice was taken of him, though he made no ſecret of the place of his reſidence.

He went again abroad, but returning in 1735, made application for a pardon; but though this was

* This lord Newburgh eſcaped from the Tower in 1716.

was refuſed, he ſtill remained unmoleſted. Unſucceſsful in this application, he went once more to France, where he lived in a retired manner till the commencement of the rebellion in 1745, when he embarked at Calais, bringing his ſon with him, with a view to have joined the pretender; but the veſſel in which he ſailed being taken by the Sheerneſs man of war, he was brought to Deal, whence being conveyed to London, he was committed to the Tower, where he remained till the rebellion was ſuppreſſed.

His ſon, having been born abroad, while his father denied his allegiance, was not conſidered as a ſubject of England, and was therefore exchanged on the firſt cartel for French priſoners.

Mr. Ratcliffe was brought up to the court of Kings-Bench in Michaelmas term, 1746, and there received ſentence of death on the record of his former conviction in 1716; but on account of the noble family from which he was deſcended, he was ordered to be beheaded, inſtead of being hanged *.

A ſcaffold being erected on Little Tower-hill, the eighth of December was ordered for the day of execution; when the ſheriffs, going to the Tower about eleven o'clock, demanded the body; on which general Williamſon, the deputy-governor, went to Mr. Ratcliffe's room, where he found him in a ſcarlet coat, faced with black velvet, and trimmed with gold, and a waiſtcoat laced

* One would imagine that few people would thank the government for ſuch a favour as this; yet the late lord Ferrers requeſted it in vain. To common apprehenſions ſuſpenſion ſeems an eaſier death than decollation.

laced with gold. The priſoner received the governor and his attendants politely, and after drinking a glaſs of wine with them, got into a landau, which conveyed him to the back gate of the Tower, where the ſheriffs received him; and he then went into a mourning coach, being attended by a prieſt of the Roman Catholic perſuaſion.

Near the ſcaffold was erected a ſmall room hung with black, in which he employed about half an hour in private devotion, and then aſcended the ſcaffold. He had ſeveral friends, as well as the prieſt to attend him, and he behaved in a manner remarkably reſigned to his fate. After ſpeaking to the executioner, he gave him a purſe of guineas; and then kneeling on the ſcaffold, and his friends likewiſe kneeling, he prayed devoutly for a few minutes; when riſing up, he put on a night-cap, threw off his cloaths, placed his head on the block, and ſuffered the ſentence of the law.

The body being carried back to the Tower, remained there two days, and was then interred in a vault in the church of St. Giles in the fields, where his brother, the earl of Derwentwater, had been depoſited.

An act of parliament having paſſed in the year 1746, "to empower the king to remove the "cauſe of action againſt perſons apprehended "for high-treaſon, out of the county where the "crime was committed;" his majeſty granted to the judges commiſſions to try, in the counties of Cumberland, York, and Surrey, ſuch rebels as had been committed to the priſons of thoſe counties reſpectively.

On the 23d of June, 1746, at the ſeſſions held at St. Margaret's Hill for the trial of the rebels, Colonel FRANCIS TOWNLEY, of the Mancheſter regi-

regiment, was indicted for the part he had acted in the rebellion. His council inſiſted that he was not a ſubject of Great Britain, being an officer in the ſervice of the French king; but this the judges obſerved was a circumſtance againſt him, as he had quitted his native country, and engaged in the French ſervice without the conſent of his lawful ſovereign. Some other motions equally frivolous being over-ruled, he was capitally convicted, and adjudged to die.

Colonel Townley was the ſon of ——— Townley, eſq; of Townley Hall in Lancaſhire, who was tried for the ſhare he had in the rebellion of 1715, but acquitted.

Young Mr. Townley being educated in the rigid principles of popery, went abroad early in life, and entering into the ſervice of France, diſtinguiſhed himſelf in the military line, particularly at the ſiege of Phillipſbourg.

Coming to England in 1742, he aſſociated chiefly with thoſe of the Catholic religion; and it was thought that he induced many of them to take an active part in the rebellion. When the pretender came to Mancheſter, Townley offered his ſervices; which being accepted, he was commiſſioned to raiſe a regiment, which he ſoon compleated; but being made a priſoner at Carliſle, he was conducted to London.

After conviction he behaved in the moſt reſerved manner, ſcarcely ſpeaking to any one but his brethren in misfortune.

JOHN BARWICK, formerly a linen-draper of Mancheſter, but afterwards a lieutenant, was the next perſon tried and convicted. This man was diſtinguiſhed by living elegantly in priſon; and it was remarked that the priſoners in general were amply ſupplied with the neceſſaries of life, by the

bounty

bounty of their friends. It is aſſerted that they expected to be treated as priſoners of war; but it is not credible that they could be ſo totally ignorant of the laws of nations, or their duty as ſubjects.

JAMES DAWSON, a native of Lancaſhire, was genteelly born, and liberally educated at St. John's College in Cambridge. After leaving the Univerſity, he repaired to Mancheſter, where the pretender gave him a captain's commiſſion. Dawſon had paid his addreſſes to a young lady, to whom he was to have been married immediately after his enlargement, if the ſolicitations that were made for his pardon had been attended with the deſired effect.

The circumſtance of his love, and the melancholy that was produced by his death, is ſo admirably touched in the following ballad of Shenſtone, that Dawſon's ſtory will probably be remembered and regretted when that of the reſt of the rebels will be forgotten. A man muſt have loſt all feeling who can read this beautiful ballad, equally remarkable for its elegance, its ſimplicity, and its truth, and remain unaffected.

JEMMY DAWSON; a BALLAD.

COME liſten to my mournful tale,
Ye tender hearts and lovers dear;
Nor will you ſcorn to heave a ſigh,
Nor will you bluſh to ſhed a tear.

And thou, dear Kitty, peerleſs maid,
Do thou a penſive ear incline,
For thou canſt weep at ev'ry woe,
And pity every plaint, but mine.

Young Dawſon was a gallant youth,
A brighter never trod the plain;
And well he lov'd one charming maid,
And dearly was he lov'd again.

One tender maid ſhe lov'd him dear,
Of gentle blood the damſel came,
And faultleſs was her beauteous form,
And ſpotleſs was her virgin fame.

But curſe on party's hateful ſtrife,
That led the faithful youth aſtray,
The day the rebel clans appear'd:
Oh had he never ſeen that day!

Their colours and their ſaſh he wore,
And in their fatal dreſs was found;
And now he muſt that death endure,
Which gives the brave the keeneſt wound.

How pale was then his true-love's cheek,
When Jemmy's ſentence reach'd her ear?
For never yet did alpine ſnows,
So pale, nor yet ſo chill appear.

Yet might ſweet mercy find a place
And bring relief to Jemmy's woes,
O George, without a pray'r for thee,
My orizons ſhould never cloſe.

The gracious prince that gives him life,
Would crown a never-dying flame;
And ev'ry tender babe I bore
Should learn to liſp the giver's name.

But tho', dear youth, thou ſhould'ſt be dragg'd
To yonder ignominious tree,

Thou

Thou ſhalt not want a faithful friend
To ſhare thy bitter fate with thee.

O then her mourning coach was call'd;
The ſledge mov'd ſlowly on before;
Tho' borne in a triumphal car,
She had not lov'd her fav'rite more.

She follow'd him, prepar'd to view
The terrible beheſts of law;
And the laſt ſcene of Jemmy's woes
With calm and ſtedfaſt eye ſhe ſaw.

Diſtorted was that blooming face,
Which ſhe had fondly lov'd ſo long:
And ſtifled was that tuneful breath,
Which in her praiſe had ſweetly ſung:

And ſever'd was that beauteous neck,
Round which her arms had fondly clos'd;
And mangled was that beauteous breaſt,
On which her love-ſick head repos'd:

And raviſh'd was that conſtant heart,
She did to ev'ry heart prefer;
For tho' it could his king forget,
'Twas true and loyal ſtill to her.

Amidſt thoſe unrelenting flames
She bore this conſtant heart to ſee;
But when 'twas moulder'd into duſt,
Yet, yet, ſhe cry'd, I'll follow thee.

My death, my death can only ſhew
The pure and laſting love I bore;
Accept, O Heav'n, of woes like ours,
And let us, let us weep no more.

The diſmal ſcene was o'er and paſt,
The lover's mournful hearſe retir'd;
The maid drew back her languid head,
And, ſighing forth his name, expir'd.

Tho' juſtice ever muſt prevail,
The tear my Kitty ſheds is due;
For ſeldom ſhall we hear a tale
So ſad, ſo tender, and ſo true.

Another of the parties tried on this occaſion was GEORGE FLETCHER, who had been a linen-draper at Stratford near Mancheſter, managing the buſineſs for his mother, who on her knees perſuaded him not to engage with the rebels; and offered him 1000l. on the condition that he would not embark in ſo deſperate an enterprize: but he was deaf to her entreaties, and ſo ambitious of ſerving the pretender, that he gave his ſecretary, Mr. Murray, fifty pounds for a captain's commiſſion. Fletcher having induced one Maddox to enliſt, the man would have deſerted, but he produced a handful of gold, and ſaid he ſhould not want money if he would fight for the pretender; which induced Maddox to keep his ſtation.

THOMAS SYDDALL was a barber at Mancheſter, and had ſupported a wife and five children in a creditable way, till the rebel troops arrived at that place. His father was hanged at Mancheſter for his concern in the rebellion of 1715, and his head had remained on the Market-Croſs till the year 1745, when it was taken down on the arrival of the pretender. Syddal, who was a rigid Roman Catholic, now vowed revenge againſt the proteſtants, with a view to accompliſh which he obtained an enſign's commiſſion from the pretender's ſecretary.

The

The attachment of this man to the pretender was ſo extraordinary, that almoſt in the laſt moment of his life he prayed that his children might be ready to aſſert the ſame at the hazard of their lives.

THOMAS CHADWICK was tried immediately after Syddall. He was a tallow-chandler, but had not long followed buſineſs; for aſſociating with perſons of Jacobitical principles, he accepted the commiſſion of lieutenant in the pretender's ſervice; and he was tried for, and convicted of acting in that capacity. Chadwick appeared to have great reſolution; and told his friends that death, in any ſhape, had no terrors for him: but his courage forſook him, and he ſeemed greatly agitated, on taking leave of his father the night before his execution.

THOMAS DEACON, the next perſon tried, was the ſon of a phyſician of eminence. His principles of loyalty being tainted by aſſociating with Jacobites, he became zealous in the cauſe of the pretender; and his zeal was rewarded by the commiſſion of lieutenant colonel in the Mancheſter regiment.

Mr. Deacon had declared his reſolution of joining the rebels as ſoon as he heard they were in arms in Scotland; and when they arrived at Mancheſter he became one of their number. His two brothers likewiſe embarked in this fatal buſineſs: and one of them was ſentenced to die with him: but being only ſixteen years of age, he was happy enough to obtain a pardon.

The next convict on this melancholy occaſion was ANDREW BLOOD, who had been ſteward to a gentleman in Yorkſhire, of which county he was a native, and deſcended from a reſpectable family.

Quit-

Quitting his ſervice, he went to Mancheſter to join the rebels, and received a captain's commiſſion. He pleaded guilty to the indictment, and received ſentence with the utmoſt compoſure and reſignation. The gentleman whom he had ſerved as ſteward exerted his utmoſt influence to procure a pardon for him; but the culprit being told all endeavours were fruitleſs, expreſſed the utmoſt unconcern, and ſaid he was willing to become a martyr for the cauſe he had abetted, adding, that he had prepared to death, having entertained no hope of pardon.

The next perſon brought to trial and conviction was DAVID MORGAN, Eſq; of Monmouthſhire. This man had been ſent by his father to ſtudy law in the Temple; and practiſed a ſhort time as a counſellor: but his father dying, he went to reſide on his eſtare in the country. He was diſtinguiſhed by the haughtineſs of his temper, and a diſpoſition to quarrel with his neighbours and ſervants.

Having met the rebels at Mancheſter, he adviſed the pretender to proceed immediately to London, aſſuring him that the whole force to oppoſe him did not exceed three thouſand men. Had this advice been attended to, the rebellion might have been cruſhed much ſooner than it was: for no doubt the people would have ariſen as one man, to oppoſe the progreſs of the lawleſs inſurgents.

The pretender having granted Morgan a warrant to ſearch the houſes in Mancheſter for arms, he did this in the ſtricteſt manner, and threatened with exemplary puniſhment all thoſe who oppoſed him.

A colonel's commiſſion was offered him; but he declined the acceptance of it, propoſing rather

to

to give his advice than his perſonal aſſiſtance. When the rebels marched to Derby he quitted them; but being taken into cuſtody, he was lodged in Cheſter caſtle, and thence conveyed to London: and conviction following commitment, he was ſentenced to die with his aſſociates.

After the ſentence of the law was paſſed, the convicts declared that they had acted according to the dictates of their conſciences, and would again act the ſame parts, if they were put to the trial. When the keeper informed them that the following day was ordered for their execution, they expreſſed a reſignation to the will of God, embraced each other, and took an affectionate leave of their friends.

On the following morning they breakfaſted together, and having converſed till near eleven o'clock, were conveyed from the New Goal, Southwark, to Kennington Common, on three ſledges. The gibbet was ſurrounded by a party of the guards, and a block, and a pile of faggots were placed near it. The faggots were ſet on fire while the proper officers were removing the malefactors from the ſledges.

After near an hour employed in acts of devotion, theſe unhappy men, having delivered to the ſheriffs ſome papers expreſſive of their political ſentiments, then underwent the ſentence of the law. They had not hung above five minutes, when Townly was cut down, being yet alive, and his body being placed on the block, the executioner chopped off his head with a cleaver. His heart and bowels were then taken out and thrown into the fire; and the other parties being ſeparately treated in the ſame manner, the executioner cried out "God ſave king George!"

The

The bodies were quartered, and delivered to the keeper of the New Goal, who buried them: the heads of ſome of the parties were ſent to Carliſle and Mancheſter, where they were expoſed; but thoſe of Townly and Fletcher were fixed on Temple-Bar, where they remained till within theſe few years, when they fell down.

Theſe victims to their raſhneſs ſuffered on Kennington Common, on the 30th of July, 1746.

Three other perſons ſuffered ſoon afterwards on the ſame ſpot, for ſimilar offences; of which the following are ſuch particulars as will be intereſting to the reader.

DONALD M'DONALD had joined the pretender ſoon after he came to Scotland, and had received a captain's commiſſion. He was educated by an uncle, who told him he would tarniſh the glory of his anceſtors, who had been warmly attached to the cauſe, if he failed to act with courage.

M'Donald was ever foremoſt where danger preſented itſelf: he was greatly diſtinguiſhed at the battle of Preſton pans, and joined with lord Nairn in taking poſſeſſion of Perth: ſervices that greatly recommended him to the pretender.

This man was exceedingly aſſiduous to learn the art of war, and made himſelf of ſo much conſequence as to be entruſted with the command of two thouſand men. The duke of Perth having ordered two men, who refuſed to enliſt, to be ſhot, M'Donald complained to his uncle, who had likewiſe a command in the rebel army, of the injuſtice of this proceeding; but the uncle ordered the nephew into cuſtody, and told him that he ſhould be ſhot on the following day; and actually informed the pretender of what had paſſed; but M'Donald was only reprimanded, and diſmiſ-

diſmiſſed, on promiſe of more cautious behaviour in future.

After his commitment to priſon M'Donald frequently wiſhed that he had been ſhot. Being adviſed to repent, he ſaid it would be fruitleſs, and he had rather hear a tune on the ſweet bag-pipes that uſed to play before the army. He often told the keepers of the priſon, that "if they would knock "off his fetters, and give him a pair of bag-pipes, "he would treat them with a highland dance."

He ſaid, he thought the pretender's ſervice very honourable when he firſt engaged in it, which he would never have done if he had thought him ſo ill provided for the expedition. He likewiſe expreſſed the utmoſt reſentment againſt the French king, for not ſupplying them with ſuccours.

James Nicholson had been educated in principles averſe to thoſe of the abettors of the houſe of Stewart, but had been fatally prevailed on to change his political ſentiments by ſome Jacobites, who frequented a Coffee-houſe which he kept at Leith with great reputation for a conſiderable time.

Having accepted a lieutenant's commiſſion on the arrival of the rebels at Edinburgh, he proceeded with them as far as Derby; but when they returned to Carliſle, he was taken into cuſtody, and ſent with the other priſoners to London.

After conviction he was viſited by his wife and children, which afforded a ſcene of diſtreſs that is not to be deſcribed. He now lamented the miſeries that he had brought on his family; but his penitence came too late!

The county of Bamff in Scotland gave birth to Walter Ogilvie, who was brought up a Proteſtant, and taught the duty of allegiance to the illuſtrious houſe of Brunſwick; but ſome of his aſſo-

ciates having contaminated his principles, he went to lord Lewis Gordon, and joined the diviſion of rebels under his command.

Ogilvie's father repreſented to him the raſhneſs and impracticability of the ſcheme in which he was about to engage: but the young man ſaid he was perſuaded of its juſtice; and that the pretender had a right to his beſt ſervices.

After conviction theſe unfortunate men behaved for ſome time with great indifference; but on the nearer approach of death they grew more ſerious. On the morning of their execution, having been viſited by ſome friends, they were drawn on a ſledge to Kennington Common, where they were turned off as ſoon as their devotions were ended; and after hanging about a quarter of an hour, they were cut down, their heads cut off, their bowels taken out and burnt, and their bodies conveyed to the New Goal, Southwark; and on the following day they were interred in one grave, in the new burial ground belonging the pariſh of Bloomsbury.

Theſe unfortunate men ſuffered at Kennington Common on the 22d of Auguſt, 1746.

ALEXANDER M'GRUTHER, a lieutenant in the duke of Perth's regiment, and who had been very active among the rebels, was condemned with the three parties abovementioned; but he had the happineſs to obtain a reprieve through the intereſt of his friends.

Many other of the priſoners tried and convicted in Surry were reprieved, as proper objects of the royal mercy; and the aſſizes for that county being ended, the Judges, who were furniſhed with a ſpecial commiſſion, proceeded to Carliſle, to try thoſe confined in the caſtle of that city, the number of whom was no leſs than three hundred and ſeventy.

Orders

Orders were given that nineteen out of twenty of theſe ſhould be tranſported, and only the twentieth man tried for his life; and that the chance of trial ſhould be determined by lot; but many of them refuſed to accept theſe merciful terms.

Bills of indictment having been found againſt them, they were informed that council and ſolicitors would be allowed them without expence; and were told that the clerk of the peace was commiſſioned to grant ſubpœnas for ſuch witneſſes as they thought might be of ſervice to them. This being done, the judges proceeded to York caſtle, to try thoſe there confined; and adjourned the aſſizes at Carliſle till the ninth of September, that the accuſed parties might have time to make a proper defence.

In the mean time ſeventy were condemned of thoſe confined at York, the moſt remarkable of whom was JOHN HAMILTON Eſq; who had been appointed governor of Carliſle, having joined the pretender after the battle of Preſton Pans. On the firſt of November ten of the convicts were executed at York, and eleven more on the eighth of the ſame month: and four were ordered to ſuffer on the fifteenth; but three of theſe were reprieved.

The judges now returned to Carliſle; and as many of the witneſſes on the behalf of the priſoners had come fom Scotland, they refuſed to be ſworn in the Engliſh manner, and at length they were ſworn according to the cuſtom of their own country.

Many of the priſoners pleaded guilty; and among thoſe who ſtood the event of a trial, and were convicted, was a non-juring clergyman named Cappock, who had preached to the rebels at Carliſle and Manchester.

No leſs than ninety-one perſons received ſentence of death at Carliſle, ſeveral of whom were people of fortune, who had abandoned their better proſpects in life, to take part in this deſperate rebellion. Ten of them were hanged and quartered at Carliſle on the 18th of October, and ten more at Brampton in Cumberland on the 21ſt of the ſame month: but a number of them were tranſported, and ſeveral received an unconditional pardon.

Five other of the rebels, who had been tried in Surry, ſuffered at Kennington Common on the 28th of the month abovementioned; one of whom at the place of execution drank a health to the pretender.

In conſequence of theſe convictions many eſtates were forfeited to the crown; but king George the Second ordered them to be ſold, and the whole produce above twenty years purchaſe to be given to the orphans of thoſe who had forfeited them. The reſt is employed in eſtabliſhing ſchools in the Highlands, and inſtructing the natives in uſeful arts.

Thus have we given an account of the progreſs and conſequences of the rebellion in 1745; and it now only remains to make ſome remarks on the whole.

When we conſider the admirable ſyſtem of government which prevails in this country, it will ſeem aſtoniſhing that any perſons ſhould be raſh enough to invade it, or weak enough to ſuppoſe they can invade it with ſucceſs. Thoſe who look back to the times of king John, and reflect on the conduct of the bold barons who wreſted the great charter of freedom from the intentional tyrant, will plainly ſee that it cannot be an eaſy matter to deprive Britons of their birthright.

It is to the expulſion of king James the ſecond, the elevation of king William to the throne, and the conſequent act of ſettlement on the houſe of Hanover, that this country owes its emancipation from tyranny, and all the bleſſings reſulting from a ſyſtem of well-founded freedom: nor muſt the inhabitants of Great Britain expect theſe bleſſings longer than they are anxious to preſerve them at the riſk of their lives.

The act of union, which paſſed in the year 1707, as it made but one of what was before two kingdoms, ought to have made but one of what was deemed two ſeparate intereſts. Engliſhmen and Scotchmen ſhould conſider themſelves as brethren of one family; united in one mutual intereſt; bound by the ſame general laws, though varying in ſome particulars; and under the moſt ſacred obligation to protect each other in every emergency that may threaten the welfare of either.

Happy will the time be when all odious national diſtinctions ſhall ceaſe; and when the inhabitants of North and South Britain, forgetting all former animoſities, ſhall hail each other, without exception, and on all occaſions, as brothers, friends, and companions!

Narrative of the Caſe of Hosea Youell, who was hanged for Murder.

AT the ſeſſions held at the Old Bailey in October 1747, Hoſea Youell, and Jacob Lopez, were indicted for the murder of captain Johns, when the former was convicted, and the latter acquitted.

The

The ſtory of this affair is as follows. Mr. Johns coming up Sandwich-court, Devonſhire-ſquare, between ten and eleven o'clock at night, met two men whom he believed to be Jews, who robbed him of his watch and money. Hearing ſome people coming towards him, he called out "Stop thief;" on which one of them returned, and gave him a ſtab in the body, of the depth of nine inches; as appeared by the depoſition of the ſurgeon, who attended captain Johns at the Dolphin Inn, Biſhopſgate-ſtreet, and extracted a piece of the ſword from his body.

Youell being taken into cuſtody, alderman Rawlinſon attended the wounded man, who poſitively charged Youell with being the murderer, and ſigned his charge, being in his perfect ſenſes, but died within fifteen minutes afterwards.

The wounded man being aſked how he could be ſo poſitive to Youell, ſaid he knew him by the light from a lamp; and that he ſhould know his voice. Youell being bid to turn round, ſlouch his hat, and ſay "D— your eyes," heſitated for a while; but at length complying, the captain ſaid, "You are the man that ſtabbed me, I am poſitive "of it."

A piece of a ſword was found in the court where the captain was ſtabbed, which exactly tallied with the piece lodged in the body of the deceaſed; and it appeared that Youell had requeſted the city marſhal to ſpeak to the alderman, that he might be admitted an evidence; and averred, that the murder was not committed by himſelf, but by one Hart.

After conviction the priſoner ſaid that he was only eighteen years of age, and born of Jewiſh parents, who lived in Creed-lane, Leadenhall-ſtreet. He was ſo illiterate that he could neither read Hebrew

brew nor Engliſh. The ordinary of Newgate repreſenting to him the advantages of the Goſpel over the Moſaic diſpenſation, he ſaid that, as he was born and bred a Jew, he would die ſuch.

He was attended by a perſon of his own perſuaſion, and at the place of execution ſtedfaſtly denied having been guilty of the murder. However, he earneſtly adviſed young people to be cautious in the choice of their company; as it was by a neglect of that caution that he had come to a fatal end.

This malefactor was hanged at Tyburn on the 16th of November, 1747.

To what we have before obſerved in our remarks on the crime of murder, nothing need on this occaſion be added, but that the aſſociating with bad company is the frequent fore-runner of every other vice. Young people cannot be too cautious in the ſelection of their aſſociates; as on this circumſtance frequently depends the whole happineſs of their lives. Nothing is ſo contaminating to youth as vicious company:

From one rude boy that's us'd to mock
They learn the wicked jeſt;
One ſickly ſheep infects the flock,
And poiſons all the reſt.

The Caſe of GEORGE LANCASTER, who was hanged for Forgery.

THIS offender was born in Hatton-garden, London, of reſpectable parents, who placed him with a reputable attorney, with whom he ſerved

ved part of his clerkſhip in the moſt regular manner; but making very bad connexions, his maſter requeſted his parents to take him home, and ſend him to ſea, as the moſt likely means to prevent his ruin.

The parents approving this hint, perſuaded the ſon to ſail as captain's clerk on board a ſhip in the royal navy; and he continued ſome years in this ſtation.

He came to London when his ſhip was paid off, and having received a conſiderable ſum of money, diſſipated the whole in houſes of ill fame. His father was now dead: but his mother, with a fondneſs very natural, but which perhaps contributed to his ruin, ſupplied his extravagancies till ſhe was very much reduced in her circumſtances; and in the mean time the ſon borrowed money in her name of any one who would truſt him: but at length his character being loſt, and his mother totally impoveriſhed, he determined on the commiſſion of the crime for which his life paid the forfeit.

A ſeaman, named Hugh Price, to whom thirty-ſix pounds were due for wages, died on board the Dorcheſter man of war, having made a will in favour of his wife and ſon, who lived near Whitehaven in Cumberland. Lancaſter hearing of the death of Price, forged a will purporting to be his, and carrying it to Doctors-commons, obtained a probate of the will, in conſequence of his ſwearing that he was the ſon of the above-mentioned Price.

Being thus poſſeſſed of the probate, he went to a public-houſe, producing to the landlord a letter ſigned George Price, whom he averred was the ſon of the deceaſed, and had empowered him to diſpoſe of his father's wages. The landlord, unacquainted with theſe matters, applied to a gentleman,

man, who told him he might ſafely purchaſe, if Lancaſter could get the original ticket, and would lodge the probate in his hands as a collateral ſecurity.

The publican mentioning this to Lancaſter, he ſaid he would procure the original ticket from Portſmouth; but at the expiration of four days he produced a forged ticket, which the landlord, on the advice of a friend, purchaſed for twenty-ſeven pounds.

About three months after this tranſaction, a clerk of the Navy-office calling on the publican, he ſhewed him the ticket. He ſaid he thought it a good one; but he would write to the agent at Portſmouth to enquire into the fact. The agent's anſwer was, that Hugh Price's ticket, in favour of his ſon George, was ſtill in the office; ſo that it was evident that Lancaſter's ticket muſt have been a forgery.

Hereupon the landlord went to the mother of the delinquent, and ſaid that he would adjuſt the matter, if either ſhe or her ſon could make good the deficiency; otherwiſe he would proſecute. The poor woman ſaid ſhe knew not where to find her ſon, and as to herſelf, it was out of her power.

The publican then went to an attorney, who adviſed him to make a debt of the affair, and arreſt Lancaſter for the money. This being done, he was committed to the Poultry Compter, where he was informed that he ſhould be ſet at liberty, if his friends would make a ſubſcription to raiſe the ſum: but not having friends to aſſiſt him in this eſſential matter, the publican went to the Navy-office, where he informed the commiſſioners of the affair, and they ordered Lancaſter to be proſecuted by their ſolicitor.

Lancaſter's guilt being proved in the cleareſt manner on his trial, he was convicted, and received ſentence of death. After conviction he entertained the moſt ſanguine hopes of a reprieve, through the intereſt of his friends: but being diſappointed in this expectation, he made the moſt ſerious preparation for the awful fate that awaited him.

He ſuffered at Tyburn on the 16th of November, 1747, but was in too bad a ſtate of health to make any addreſs to the ſurrounding multitude, on the ſolemn occaſion.

Serious and important reflections will very naturally ariſe from this caſe. Lancaſter's aſſociating with ill company led of courſe to his ruin; but this conduct leads, in almoſt every inſtance, to the ſame conſequence; and we have had ſo many occaſions to remark on the impropriety of aſſociating with the wicked, that it will be needleſs to ſay more in this place.

What we would now make our remarks on is the conduct of the landlord, who would have forgiven the criminal if his loſs could have been made good; thus proving that he had a greater regard to his own intereſt, than to the enforcement of the laws of the land. Public juſtice appeared in his eyes as of leſs conſequence than private property: and we are fearful that there are but too many of the ſame ſelfiſh diſpoſition.

We would wiſh theſe people to conſider that the man who proſecutes a felon merely through revenge, or with the ſingle view of recovering his loſt property, without regard to the public welfare, is not himſelf two degrees honeſter than the thief. The laws were made for the general good, and to this end they ſhould always be directed: the defence of private property is included in that of the public;

public; and if every one would exert himſelf for the general welfare, that of individuals would be effectually promoted.

Happy ſhould we think ourſelves to impreſs theſe liberal ſentiments on the mind of every reader, aſſured that they would tend to advance the happineſs of the community at large!

The ſingular Caſe of WILLIAM WHURRIER, who was hanged for Murder.

THIS man was a native of Morpeth in Northumberland, and brought up as a huſbandman; but having enliſted as a ſoldier, in general Cope's regiment, he ſerved five years and a half in Flanders: but ſome horſes being wanted for the uſe of the army, he and another man were ſent to England to purchaſe them.

On the 11th of February, 1748, Whurrier and his companion walking over Finchley Common towards Barnet, the latter being wearied, agreed with a poſt-boy who went by with a led horſe, to permit him to ride to Barnet, leaving Whurrier at an alehouſe on the road.

Whurrier having drunk freely, met with a woman who appeared to be his countrywoman, and with her he continued drinking till both of them were intoxicated, when they proceeded together towards Barnet; but they were followed by ſome ſailors, one of whom inſulted Whurrier, telling him that he had no buſineſs with the woman.

Whurrier ſuſpecting there was a deſign to injure him, aſked the woman if ſhe had any connexion

with thoſe men. She ſaid ſhe had not: but in the mean time the other ſailors coming up, ſaid they came to reſcue the woman; on which Whurrier drew his ſword; but returned it into the ſcabbard without annoying any one.

A ſoldier riding by at this inſtant, Whurrier told him that the ſailors had ill-treated him, and begged his aſſiſtance; on which the ſoldier getting off his horſe, the ſailors ran away, and Whurrier purſuing them, overtook the firſt that had aſſaulted him, and drawing his ſword, cut him in ſuch a manner that he was carried in a hopeleſs condition to a houſe in the neighbourhood, where he languiſhed till the Sunday following, and then died.

It appeared by the teſtimony of a ſurgeon that the deceaſed had received a cut acroſs the ſkull, as if done with a butcher's chopper, ſo that the brains lay open; beſides a variety of other wounds.

Whurrier being taken into cuſtody for the commiſſion of this murder, was brought to trial at the next ſeſſions at the Old Bailey; and being capitally convicted on the cleareſt evidence, was ſentenced to die.

After conviction he ſaid he thought there was a combination between the woman he had met with, and the ſailors; and a day or two before he ſuffered, he procured the following paper to be publiſhed, which he called "Whurrier's Declaration."

"This is to let the world know that I have lived "in good credit, and have ſerved his Majeſty eight "years and two months. In the time of my ſer- "vice I have ſtood ſix campaigns, and always obey- "ed all lawful commands: I have been in three "battles, and at Bergen-op-zoom, during the time

"it

" it was beſieged. The firſt battle was at Dettingen,
" June 1743, when his majeſty headed his army:
" the ſecond was in the year 1745, April 30, at
" Fontenoy; the third was at Luckland, by ſiege;
" beſides ſeveral ſkirmiſhes, and other great dan-
" gers. I had rather it had been my fate to have
" died in the field of battle, where I have ſeen
" many thouſands wallowing in their blood, than to
" come to ſuch diſgrace: but, alas, I have eſcaped
" all theſe dangers to come to this unhappy fate, to
" ſuffer at Tyburn; and afterwards to hang in
" chains on a gibbet, which laſt is the neareſt con-
" cern to me; and I cannot help expreſſing, that
" it would be more beneficial to the public to em-
" ploy blackſmiths to make breaſt-plates for the
" ſoldiers, than irons to incloſe their bodies to be
" expoſed to the fowls of the air.

" I have been a true ſubject and faithful ſervant,
" as is well known to the officers of the regiment
" to which I belonged. If I had been a pick-
" pocket, or a thief, I ſhould have ſuffered much
" more deſervedly, in my own opinion, than I now
" do; for what I did was in my own defence: I
" was upon the king's duty, and was aſſaulted by
" the men in ſailors habits, who gave me ſo many
" hard blows, as well as ſo much bad language,
" that I could no longer bear it, and was obliged
" to draw my ſword in my own defence; and being
" in too great a paſſion, as well as too much in li-
" quor, I own I ſtruck without mercy; as thinking
" my life in danger, ſurrounded by four men, who
" I thought deſigned to murder me: who or what
" they were the Lord knows; it is plain they had
" a falſe paſs, as it was proved; and that they had
" travelled but ſeven miles in nine days; but I
" forgive them, as I hope forgiveneſs; and the

" Lord

" Lord have mercy on my ſoul, and the poor man's " whom I killed.

" *William Whurrier.*"

This malefactor was executed at Tyburn on the 7th of March, 1748, and his body afterwards hung in chains on Finchley Common.

The crime of this man ſeems to have ariſen from a ſenſe of injury inflamed by intoxication; and affords a ſtrong leſſon againſt the vice of drunkenneſs; a vice which, depriving a man of his reaſon, does but at the beſt level him with the brutes, and frequently reduces him many degrees below the reſt of the animal creation.

Sobriety, if it be not itſelf a virtue, is naturally productive of a thouſand. The mind that is calm and compoſed is fitted for the practice of all its duties; while, on the contrary, the devotees of debauchery are as uſeleſs to the public, as they are obnoxious in themſelves!

Particulars reſpecting JOHN PARKES, who was hanged for Forgery.

THIS malefactor was a native of Wrexham in Denbighſhire, and having been liberally educated, was apprenticed to a ſilverſmith, with whom he ſerved his time with a fair character, and then came to ſettle in London.

After a reſidence of more than twenty years, during which he worked as a journeyman, he became diſtreſſed in circumſtances, which induced him to think of having recourſe to the following method of ſupplying his neceſſities.

Having drawn a bill on Mr. Scott, a refiner in Love-lane, in the name of Mr. Brown of Lombard-ſtreet, for one hundred ounces of ſilver, he carried it to the houſe of the former, who not being at home, an apprentice read the draft, and aſked if Parkes was a ſilverſmith, and for whom he worked. He told him for Mr. Robinſon in Bond-ſtreet. The apprentice ſaid he was well acquainted with Mr. Robinſon; but not knowing that his maſter dealt with Mr. Brown, begged that the bearer would call for an anſwer in the morning.

Parkes now went home to bed: but reflecting that he could imitate Mr. Robinſon's hand-writing, with which he was perfectly acquainted, he wrote a letter in his name to Mr Scott, informing him that he would be anſwerable for Brown's credit, if any doubt was entertained of it, and begging that no diſappointment might happen.

Parkes had ſome idea of carrying this letter himſelf: but reflecting on the danger that might attend ſuch a proceeding, he went into a public-houſe near Cripplegate, and calling for a pint of beer, ſent a porter with the letter, telling him to inform Mr. Scott that he came from Mr. Robinſon of Bond-ſtreet; and to add that the perſon who had been there the preceding day was taken ill. The porter was no ſooner gone than Parkes paid for his beer, and told the woman of the houſe that if the porter brought any thing he was to leave it at the bar.

This being done, he followed the porter, and obſerving him go into Mr. Scott's, he ſtopped in a dark paſſage till he ſaw him come out, and when he was at a ſmall diſtance from the houſe, he followed him, and receiving the bag of ſilver, paid him for the porterage, and decamped with all expedition.

pedition. He carried his ill-gotten booty to the houſe of an acquaintance near the Seven Dials, where he melted part of the ſilver, and ſpent the produce in the moſt extravagant manner.

Being reduced to poverty, he melted the remainder of the ſilver, and mixing it with ſome copper, he offered it for ſale to a refiner, who threatened to apprehend him for preſenting adulterated ſilver: but the offender pretending that he had no intention of fraud, the refiner paid him the amount of the ſilver.

Having thus eſcaped puniſhment for the firſt offence, he committed ſeveral other crimes of a ſimilar nature; and at length that which coſt him his life. Having forged a note in the name of Mr. Lamery, he carried it to a refiner in Oat-lane, named Froxhall, deſiring that 200 ounces of ſilver might be delivered to the bearer. This note he delivered to Froxhall's apprentice, who carried it up ſtairs to his maſter, but firſt faſtened the door, that Parkes might not eſcape. The boy coming down ſoon, deſired Parkes to ſit down, and his maſter would wait on him. He did ſo; and Mr. Froxhall coming down, aſked who wanted the ſilver. Parkes ſaid he did; on which he was deſired to wait, and he ſhould have it: but in the mean time the apprentice was ſent for a conſtable, who conducted Parkes before the lord mayor, who committed him to Newgate.

Being indicted at the next ſeſſions at the Old Bailey, he was capitally convicted, and ſentenced to die. After conviction he exhibited ſigns of the utmoſt penitence, and ſincerely lamented the paſt irregularities of his life. He behaved devoutly at the place of execution, and warned others to avoid thoſe practices which brought him to a fatal end.

Parkes

Parkes was hanged at Tyburn on the 14th of February, 1748.

The crime of forgery (of which this man's offence was a ſpecies) is ſo enormous in itſelf, and ſo deſtructive of the mercantile intereſt, that it ought to be diſcouraged in a trading nation, beyond almoſt any other crime; but as in the courſe of this work we have had repeated occaſion to reprobate this ſpecies of defraud, and ſhall have further opportunities of expoſing its pernicious tendency, we will not dwell longer on this article than juſt to obſerve, that the man who is raſh enough to adventure on a forgery, dips his pen in blood; for conviction certainly follows the diſcovery; and an ignominious death is the undoubted conſequence of ſuch conviction.

Particulars relating to GEORGE COCK, who was convicted of privately ſtealing, and executed at Tyburn.

THIS malefactor was born in the neighbourhood of Aldgate, and at a proper age apprenticed to a Peruke-maker in Spittal-fields; but he abſconded before the time expreſſed in his indenture was expired, and his maſter judging him to be ſtrongly diſpoſed to diſorderly and profligate courſes, purſued no meaſures to induce his return.

Cock lived ſeven or eight years as errand-boy and porter to ſeveral tradeſmen, none of whom had reaſon to ſuſpect that he purloined their property: but he was held by them in no eſteem, on account of his being frequently intoxicated, and

aſſociating with people of diſſolute principles. It is natural to ſuppoſe, that the abandoned company he kept encreaſed his inclination to a life of idleneſs, and proved the cauſe of his purſuing felonious courſes for procuring the means of ſubſiſtence.

Having made pretenſions of love to a maid ſervant in the neighbourhood of May-fair, ſhe invited him to her maſter's houſe; he was punctual to the appointment, and during his ſtay, treacherouſly ſtole a ſilver ſpoon of about twelve ſhillings value.

Learning that a lady lived at Streatham, whoſe ſon was abroad, he went to her houſe, and informed her that he was lately arrived in England, and waited upon her by the deſire of the young gentleman, to aſſure her of the continuance of his filial affection. He was invited to partake of the beſt proviſions the houſe could afford, and entertained with great liberality, kindneſs, and reſpect. After he had ſufficiently refreſhed himſelf, and ſecreted a large ſilver ſpoon in his pocket, he departed, intending to direct his courſe towards the metropolis. The ſpoon being miſſed, two ſervants were diſpatched in ſearch of the thief, and overtaking him at about the diſtance of a mile from the houſe, they conducted him to a magiſtrate, who committed him to Bridewell as a vagrant, as the lady was averſe to proſecuting him for the felony. Having remained in priſon about three months, and been privately whipped, he was diſmiſſed, after the juſtice by whom he was committed had pathetically repreſented to him the diſgrace, danger, and iniquity, of ſeeking to obtain a livelihood by illegal practices.

Upon gaining information that the father of a young gentleman of Bartholomew-lane was abroad, he

he went to the houſe, and pretended to the youth that he was preparing to embark for the country where his father reſided; ſaying, that as he was acquainted with the old gentleman, he ſhould be happy to deliver any meſſage or letter, or execute any commiſſion with which the ſon might think proper to charge him. His reception here was not leſs hoſpitable than that he experienced at Streatham: and he did not take leave till he had conveyed a ſilver cup into his pocket, with which he got off undiſcovered. He ſold the cup, and expended the money it produced in the moſt extravagant manner.

Cock went to the houſe of the captain of a trading veſſel in Ratcliff highway, whom he knew was at ſea, expecting that he ſhould be able to amuſe his wife by ſome plauſible pretences, and to obtain a booty before he left the houſe. He was informed that the captain's lady was not at home, but was invited into the houſe by her mother, who told him that ſhe expected her daughter's return in a very ſhort time. Being ſhewn into the kitchen, he aſked the maid ſervant for ſome table-beer, and while ſhe was gone to draw it, he ſecreted a large ſilver tankard; upon the maid's bringing the beer he drank heartily, and then, pretending that he had ſome buſineſs to tranſact which would not permit him to ſtay any longer, took leave, promiſing to return on the following day. He ſold the tankard to a Jew.

He enquired of a ſervant-maid in Spittal-fields whether there were not ſome women in that neighbourhood whoſe huſbands were in foreign parts. The girl ſaid the huſbands of two or three of her maſter's neighbours were abroad, and aſked the name of the perſon he deſired to find. He ſaid

he had forgot the name, but artfully added that he ſhould remember it upon hearing it repeated; in conſequence of which ſhe mentioned ſome names, and upon his ſaying that one of them was that of the party he wanted, the girl directed him to the houſe where the wife of his ſuppoſed friend reſided. He told the woman that he was lately arrived in England, and, by her huſband's particular deſire, called to inform her of his being in perfect health when he embarked. He formed ſome trifling excuſe for occaſioning the woman to leave the apartment, and ſoon after her return he went away, taking with him a pint ſilver tankard and two ſilver table ſpoons.

By the above and other villanies of a ſimilar nature, he gained a maintenance for ſeveral years: but it will now appear, that, notwithſtanding the art he employed in the purſuit of villany, he at length fell a juſt victim to the inſulted laws of his country.

Cock went to two ladies in Soho-ſquare in one day, under the pretext of delivering meſſages from their huſbands, who had been ſeveral years reſident in foreign parts; and was received by them in the moſt kind and hoſpitable manner. He had been gone but a ſhort time, when one of the ladies miſſed ſome ſilver ſpoons; in conſequence of which he was purſued and taken before a magiſtrate; and during his examination the other appeared, and, on oath, identified a ſilver tankard found in the priſoner's poſſeſſion. He was committed to Newgate, and, at the enſuing ſeſſions at the Old Bailey, condemned to ſuffer death.

During his confinement in Newgate he ſhewed not the leaſt remorſe for his paſt offences, nor employed any part of the ſhort time he had to exiſt in making

making the neceſſary preparation for the awful change he was about to experience, but flattered himſelf in the expectation of being reprieved. However, after learning that he was ordered for execution, he, in ſome degree, corrected the irregularity of his behaviour; but ſtill his conduct was by no means ſuch as might have been expected from a man in his dreadful ſituation.

He was almoſt wholly regardleſs of the devotional exerciſes at the place of execution; and refuſed to addreſs the populace, though urged to it by the ordinary.

This offender was executed at Tyburn on the 13th of June 1748.

At an early time of life Cock manifeſted a ſtrong propenſity to vicious courſes; but it does not thence follow that he was irreclaimable. When he abſconded during his apprenticeſhip, it became a duty incumbent on his maſter to purſue every poſſible means for inducing his return; for by exerting a lawful authority over him, or by the more gentle method of appealing to his reaſon, repreſenting the ill conſequences naturally reſulting from diſſolute courſes, and the certain happineſs attending a life regulated by the dictates of virtue, it is probable that he might have effected an entire reformation in his conduct, and have become a worthy member of ſociety. It is, however, beyond diſpute that the maſter was deſerving very ſevere reprehenſion, for ſhamefully neglecting all endeavours to avert the ruin of a youth committed entirely to his protection. When a man takes an apprentice, let him conſider that he has a more important duty to fulfil than that of merely inſtructing him in the method of earning a livelihood; that he becomes the guardian of his morals, and that he muſt incur a heavy weight of

guilt

guilt if he ſuffers them to be corrupted through his inattention or example.

In robbing the houſe to which he was invited by the woman to whom he had made a declaration of love, this offender added to a felonious act circumſtances of a moſt aggravating nature; he violated the faith he had ſolemnly ſworn to preſerve, and ſubjected an innocent perſon to the ſuſpicion of a crime which has been ſeldom known to be followed by a puniſhment leſs ſevere than death.*

It is ſhocking to humanity to reflect on the unprepared manner in which Cock parted with mortal exiſtence! He flattered himſelf with the hope of a pardon, and perhaps thought that repentance unneceſſary which, upon the nearer approach of his fate, he could not hope would prove effectual. But it ſhould be remembered that the moſt atrocious ſinner is commanded not to deſpair of forgiveneſs, and that the ſupplications of the ſincere penitent will ever prove acceptable to that Almighty Power who is equally the God of juſtice and mercy.

An account of JOHN LANCASTER, who was executed for Houſe-breaking.

THE parents of John Lancaſter were poor but honeſt people, who put him to ſchool to be inſtructed in reading, writing, and arithmetic, and,

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* We have already obſerved that but few inſtances are known of the royal mercy having been extended to perſons convicted of having robbed their maſters or miſtreſſes.

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when about fourteen years of age, apprenticed him to a velvet-weaver, who, as well as his parents, lived in Whitechapel.

After the term of his ſervitude had expired, he for ſome time followed his trade as a journeyman. He was naturally inclined to vicious practices, and conſtantly aſſociated with the moſt profligate company. He was known to have committed ſeveral offences againſt the laws, for one of which, however, he was apprehended and ſecured in Newgate, where he contracted an acquaintance with a man named Lewis. They were both acquitted in the ſame ſeſſions, Lewis in defect of evidence, and Lancaſter becauſe no proſecutor appeared.

They went together to Rumford, predetermined to obtain money by violence. At Stratford they ſtopped a gentleman and robbed him of his watch, a guinea, and ſome ſilver. Their ſucceſs in this attempt giving them a greater flow of ſpirits, Lewis (who had long been a notorious thief) ſaid, "Come "along with me, my boy, and we ſhall ſoon get "money enough to live like gentlemen;" and they agreed to ſeek no means of ſupport but that dangerous and unjuſtifiable one of making depredations on the public.

They now determined to go to Smithfield, it being the time of Bartholomew-fair, and they met there a boy of their own iniquitous profeſſion, who, being acquainted with them, produced a ſilver mug, which he informed them he had ſtolen, at the ſame time offering to allow them a ſhare of the booty. Leaving the fair, they went to Duke's-place, in order to ſell the mug to a Jew named Levi Chitty; but he not being at home, they adjourned to a neighbouring alehouſe, to wait till his return: but they had not been long there before Lancaſter broke open a drawer,

drawer, and from thence ſtole ſeveral valuable articles. They now paid for the beer they had drunk, and eſcaped without ſuſpicion. Having diſpoſed of their booty, Lancaſter and Lewis determined to divide the whole produce, in excluſion of the boy who had ſtolen the ſilver mug, and therefore they ſent him to a public-houſe in Biſhopſgate-ſtreet, where they promiſed to meet him, but with a reſolution to forfeit their word.

On the following day they ſtole a quantity of braſs candleſticks, which they ſold for fifty ſhillings to the Jew, who told them that he would not have given ſo high a price but that he was deſirous of encouraging them to ſteal articles of greater value.

They made a booty of a number of ſilk handkerchiefs, and the money received for them from the Jew they ſpent in the company of a number of proſtitutes, among whom was Sarah Cock, the widow of George Cock, whoſe memoirs we have already recorded.

Lancaſter, Lewis, and Sarah Cock, went the following evening to the Royal Exchange, where they picked the pockets of ſeveral paſſengers, of watches, pocket-books, purſes of money, and other property.

They frequented all places of public reſort: and during divine ſervice on a Sunday evening at the Foundery near Moorfields, they picked the pockets of ſeveral of the congregation. On their return from the place of worſhip they came to the houſe of a velvet-weaver; and Lancaſter knowing him to be reputed as a man of conſiderable property, it was determined to break open and rob the houſe. Having effected an entrance, they ſecured a quantity of plate, and then went into the warehouſe, whence they ſtole velvet to the amount of more than an hundred pounds. Having obtained this conſiderable booty,

they

they went to Sarah Cock, and giving her the velvet, adjourned to an alehouſe in Houndſditch, to wait till ſhe had diſpoſed of it to the Jew.

The ſum Cock demanded for the velvet the Jew ſaid was more than he could afford to give, as the colour was very indifferent, and he ſhould be put to expence in ſending it to Holland, where all his ſtolen goods were exported for ſale. During their converſation they were obſerved by a weaver and a conſtable, who ſuſpecting the velvet to have been ſtolen, the woman was interrogated as to the manner of its coming into her poſſeſſion. She acknowledged having received the property from Lancaſter and Lewis, and mentioned the houſe where they were then waiting; in conſequence of which, they were both apprehended, and ſecured in Newgate.

Lewis being admitted an evidence for the crown, Lancaſter was convicted and ſentenced to die. While under ſentence of death, the ordinary endeavoured to give him a proper idea of his duty to his Creator; but to the very moment of his death he obſtinately perſiſted in a refuſal to make what atonement was yet in his power for the many offences he had committed.

On the 24th of September, 1748, John Lancaſter was executed at Tyburn.

Lancaſter was bred to a buſineſs that would have procured him a comfortable livelihood: but inſtead of ſupporting himſelf in a reputable manner, he indulged a diſpoſition to indolence and a fondneſs for the company of diſſolute people, which led him to tranſgreſs the laws whereby he was doomed to a violent and ignominious death. We ſhall conclude in the words of the Rambler, "He that does his "beſt, however little, is always to be diſtinguiſh-

" ed from him that does nothing. Whatever buſies
" the mind without corrupting it, has at leaſt this
" uſe, that it reſcues the day from idleneſs; and
" he that is never idle will not often be vicious."

The numerous Exploits of THOMAS THOMPSON, who was hanged for Horſe-ſtealing.

THE parents of this offender lived at Otley in Yorkſhire: his father dying, his mother and a numerous family were left in very indigent circumſtances. Thomas being arrived at a proper age, the pariſh officers propoſed binding him apprentice: but he declined the offer, ſaying he ſhould prefer going to ſea with a captain who was come into the country, to viſit his mother and other relations. He accompanied the captain to Durham; and the maſter of the poſt-houſe in that city, thinking him an active and promiſing youth, hired him to wait upon his cuſtomers three days in a week, and to ride poſt on the others. During the three years that he remained in this ſtation, he was guilty of ſtealing money out of letters, and of ſeveral other acts of delinquency; of which, however, he was not ſuſpected till ſome time after he had quitted his maſter's ſervice.

From Durham he went to Otley, but not being able to procure employment there, he proceeded to Rippon, where he was employed as a waiter at the ſign of the King's-head. In about three months he robbed his maſter of thirteen pounds, and abſconded. Going again to the place of his nativity, he learnt that an aunt lately deceaſed had bequeath-

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ed him twelve pounds; and having received the legacy, and purchaſed ſome new apparel, ſet out for London, where in a ſhort time he ſpent all his money in diſorderly houſes among women of ill-fame. Being in circumſtances of diſtreſs, he made application for relief to a relation, who behaved to him with great tenderneſs and generoſity; notwithſtanding which he availed himſelf of an opportunity of robbing his benefactor of two ſilver ſpoons.

He offered the ſpoons for ſale to a ſilverſmith near Charing-croſs; but his honeſty being ſuſpected, a meſſenger was diſpatched to enquire whether he lived at the place he had mentioned to the ſhop-keeper. Before the meſſenger's return Thompſon effected an eſcape; and it appeared that he had given a falſe direction. In a few days he was met near Exeter-change by the ſilverſmith, who inſiſted upon his going home with him; but being a man of an eaſy diſpoſition, he was prevailed upon by the entreaties of the young villain to favour his eſcape.

He now returned to Otley, and a dancing meeting being held there one evening, he made one of the company: at this place he prevailed upon a young woman to conſent to his partaking of her bed: but ſhe diſmiſſed him upon diſcovering that he was deſtitute of money. Thus diſappointed, he returned to the houſe where he lodged, and broke open a box, whence he ſtole fifteen ſhillings.

Early the next morning he ſtole a horſe, and rode to his late maſter's at Durham, where he ſaid he was employed to go to Newcaſtle on ſome buſineſs of importance, and ſhould return on the following day. The innkeeper believed his tale, and upon his repeating his viſit the next day, gave him a hearty welcome, and expreſſed much pleaſure

at the ſeemingly favourable change in his ſituation. In the morning, however, the boy who had been with the mail to Darlington informed Thompſon that the hue-and-cry was after him on ſuſpicion of horſe-ſtealing. In conſequence of this intelligence he took the road for Scotland, and ſelling the ſtolen horſe at Berwick upon Tweed, proceeded on foot to Cockburn's-path, and hiring a horſe there, rode to Dunbar, where having ſlept one night, he ſet out for Edinburgh in a poſt-chaiſe.

At Edinburgh he pretended to be ſervant to a military officer, and perſuaded a young woman, who was ſervant at the inn where he lodged, to admit him to a ſhare of her bed. In the morning ſhe diſcovered that her box had been broke open, and her money, beſides two gold rings bequeathed her by a relation, ſtolen thereout. She accuſed Thompſon with the robbery, and threatened a proſecution; but was appeaſed upon his reſtoring the effects.

His next expedition was to Perth, where he engaged himſelf as a ſervant to a military officer. His maſter being ordered into Yorkſhire upon the recruiting ſervice, Thompſon accompanied him: but thinking it unſafe to remain in a part of the country where he was well known, he ſtole a horſe about eleven o'clock at night, and took the road to Nottingham. For this offence he was tried at the next aſſizes, and ſentenced to die: but intereſt being made in his favour, he received a pardon on condition of tranſportation for fourteen years.

As he behaved in a remarkably decent and regular manner, the keeper of the priſon granted him many indulgences, which he determined to ſeize an opportunity of making uſe of to his own advantage; and accordingly obſerving that on ſome occaſion the

the maid ſervant was entruſted with the keys, he ſeized her by ſurprize, and taking them from her recovered his liberty.

Upon his eſcape from priſon he proceeded to London, where he inliſted into a regiment then abroad, and was conducted to the Savoy: but being ſoon after attacked by a fever, he was ſent to an hoſpital. Being tolerably recovered in about two months, he deſerted, and going to Rocheſter inliſted into a regiment lying in that city. About five weeks after his arrival in Rocheſter, he robbed the waiter of the houſe where he was quartered, and again deſerting travelled to Hatfield in Hertfordſhire, where he inliſted into a regiment, from which he alſo deſerted in about ſix weeks. He now went to Chicheſter, and, having there entered into his majeſty's ſervice as a marine, was ordered on board a ſhip lying at Portſmouth. In about two months he was ordered on ſhore, and quartered in Chicheſter, where he robbed his lodgings, and having ſtolen a mare belonging to a farmer rode towards the metropolis.

The farmer having a value for the beaſt haſtened to London, expecting that ſhe would be expoſed to ſale in Smithfield. He put up at the White Bear in Baſinghall-ſtreet, and there found both his mare and the man who had ſtolen her. Thompſon being taken before the lord mayor, was committed for trial at the Old Bailey, where he was convicted, and ſentenced to die.

When he was confined in the cells of Newgate he appeared to be ſtruck with a conſciouſneſs of the enormity of his guilt. He conſtantly attended divine ſervice in the chapel; and when viſited by the ordinary behaved in a manner that evinced the ſincerity of his repentance. The calm devotion

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that he manifeſted when he received the ſacrament ſeemed to prove that he had made his peace with his Creator.

At the place of execution he addreſſed the populace, exhorting them to live in ſtrict obedience to the laws of their country, which were not to be tranſgreſſed with impunity.

This offender ſuffered at Tyburn on the 24th of October, 1748.

The caſe of Thompſon exhibits a ſtriking inſtance of the miſery inſeparably attendant upon guilt. He was continually flying from the purſuit of juſtice, but no change of place could enſure his ſafety. How different muſt have been the ſituation of this man from that of him who can ſay, "The "law has no terrors for me; I dread it not as a ty-"rant, but reverence it as my protector!"

The remarkable caſe of JOHN YOUNG, who was executed for Forgery on the Bank of Edinburgh.

THE ſubject of this narrative was a deſcendant of a Proteſtant family at Belfaſt in Ireland. He received a liberal education, and at the uſual time of life was put apprentice to a linen-draper reſiding in the town where he was born. Having ſerved about three years, his maſter died; and as the widow declined buſineſs, he engaged as clerk to a wholeſale dealer, whoſe goods were principally ſent to the London market and Cheſter fair.

He remained with his employer till his arrival at manhood; but at length abſconded, in conſequence of one of his maſter's ſervant maids proving with child

child by him. He intended to ſettle in Dublin, but in his way to that city he met with a recruiting party belonging to the fourth regiment of foot, who urged him to drink till he became intoxicated, and then prevailed upon him to inliſt.

Young being handſome in perſon, and accompliſhed in manners, was ſoon diſtinguiſhed by his officers, who upon the firſt vacancy promoted him to be a ſerjeant. He marched from Tournay to join the regiment at Ghent in Flanders, and arrived but a few days preceding that on which was fought the terrible battle of Fontenoy. His behaviour in that action was greatly commended by his officers, who upon the return of the regiment to Ghent conferred upon him many inſtances of particular reſpect, and appointed him pay-maſter to the company to which he belonged.

The regiment in which Young was a ſerjeant was one of thoſe ordered into Scotland for the purpoſe of ſuppreſſing the rebellion, which broke out ſoon after the battle of Fontenoy: but as a conſiderable loſs of private men had been ſuſtained, he was ordered to go upon the recruiting ſervice to Cheſter, Manchester, Liverpool, and other places.

The recruits engaged by Young were paid the bounty-money without the leaſt deduction, and he would not encourage them to ſpend any part of it in an extravagant or uſeleſs manner. In the ſpace of four months he raiſed an hundred and fifty men; and it is preſumed that the ſtrict integrity of his conduct greatly promoted his ſucceſs. Upon joining his regiment in Scotland, his officers advanced him to the poſt of ſerjeant-major, as a reward for his ſervices. At the battle of Falkirk he put ſeveral of the rebels to death with his halbert, and behaved in other reſpects with remarkable intrepidity.

Upon

Upon the command of the army being aſſumed by the duke of Cumberland, the regiment to which Young belonged was ordered to march to the North. On account of the ſingular bravery they diſplayed at the battle of Culloden, and the great ſlaughter of men, this regiment was not ordered to return to Flanders, but permitted to remain in Scotland.

Upon tranquillity being re-eſtabliſhed in the Highlands, the fourth regiment was appointed to perform duty in Edinburgh caſtle, and Young was diſpatched to Briſtol upon a recruiting expedition. He inliſted a conſiderable number of men at Briſtol, and on his return to Scotland his officers complimented him with a handſome preſent. He was now ſent to raiſe recruits in Yorkſhire; and while at Sheffield in that county he engaged in a criminal intercourſe with the wife of an innkeeper, who, when he was preparing to depart, ſecreted property to a conſiderable amount, and followed her lover to Scotland. In a ſhort time the innkeeper came to Edinburgh in ſearch of his wife, and complained in paſſionate terms of the cruel and treacherous treatment he had received. The nature of his connexion with the woman being made public, Young appeared to be greatly diſconcerted whenever he met with perſons to whom he ſuppoſed the matter had been communicated: but in juſtice to his character we muſt obſerve that, ſo far from encouraging the woman to rob her huſband, he was entirely ignorant of every thing relating to that matter till the huſband's arrival in Edinburgh. Notwithſtanding the above affair, Young was ſtill held in much eſteem by his officers; and in a ſhort time the regiment was ordered to proceed to the North, and remained in the royal barracks at Inverneſs for about a twelvemonth.

Young

Young being both ſerjeant-major and pay-maſter, many notes on the bank of Scotland neceſſarily came into his poſſeſſion. While looking over ſome of theſe notes in the guard-room, a man named Parker, whom he had inliſted in England, obſerved, that if he had a few tools he could engrave a plate for counterfeiting the notes of the Edinburgh bank. Young ſeemed to give but little attention to what the other ſaid; but took him to an ale-houſe on the following day, and requeſted an explanation as to the manner of executing the ſcheme he had ſuggeſted. Parker informed him that, beſides engraving an exact reſemblance of the letters and figures, he could form a machine for printing ſuch notes as ſhould not be known from thoſe of the Scotch bank.

In ſhort, Young hired a private apartment for Parker, and ſupplied him with every utenſil neceſſary for carrying the iniquitous plan into effect; and in a ſhort time ſome counterfeit notes were produced, bearing a near reſemblance to the real ones. Upwards of ſix months elapſed before the fraud was detected.

Orders being iſſued for the regiment to march to England, Young determined to procure caſh for as many notes as poſſible previous to his departure from Inverneſs, knowing that in the Southern parts the forgery would be liable to immediate detection. With this view he applied to Mr. Gordon, who was concerned in the ſtocking manufactory at Aberdeen, and prevailed upon him to give ſixty pounds in caſh for notes expreſſing to be of the ſame value.

On his journey from Inverneſs Mr. Gordon parted with ſeveral of the notes at different places: but upon reaching Aberdeen, an advertiſement in

the news-papers, in the name of the governors of the bank at Edinburgh, convinced him that he had been deceived. In conſequence of this Mr. Gordon wrote to the ſheriff of Inverneſs, who immediately took Young into cuſtody, and found three hundred notes, and the copper-plate from which they had been printed, in his poſſeſſion. Parker was admitted an evidence for the crown, and Young was removed to Edinburgh for trial before the high court of juſticiary. After a trial that laſted a whole day, Young was pronounced to be guilty, and ſentenced to ſuffer death.

While this malefactor was under confinement he would not conſent to be viſited by the clergy, though ſeveral, from motives of humanity, were deſirous of uſing their endeavours to prepare him for eternity. He was informed by his fellow-priſoners that if he could procraſtinate his execution beyond the appointed time, his life would of neceſſity be preſerved; for that the crown law of Scotland declared that condemned priſoners ſhould be executed between two and four o'clock on the days expreſſed. Being ignorant of the law, the unhappy man was amuſed by this ſtory; and hoped to eſcape puniſhment by the following means: he ſecured the ſtrong iron door of the room wherein he was confined in ſuch a manner, that when the gaoler came in order to conduct him to the place of execution, he could not gain admittance.

Upwards of fifty carpenters, ſmiths, maſons, and other artificers, were ſent for to open a paſſage, but they all declined undertaking a buſineſs which they deemed to be impracticable; and they were unanimouſly of opinion that an aperture could not be made in the wall without endangering the whole fabric.

Matters

Matters being thus circumſtanced, the lord provoſt and the reſt of the magiſtrates aſſembled at the priſon, and, after long debates, it was determined to form an opening to the room by breaking through the floor of that immediately above.

The opening being made, the priſoner leaped up, and ſeizing a muſket from one of the city guards, declared with an oath that if any man attempted to moleſt him he would immediately daſh out his brains. Six of the ſoldiers, however, ſuddenly deſcended, and one of them received a terrible blow from the priſoner; but he was immediately after ſecured by the other five men.

This malefactor was executed in the Graſs-market at Edinburgh about ſix o'clock in the evening of the 19th of December, 1748.

Young was not addicted to indulge himſelf in expenſive pleaſures; and we may ſuppoſe that his pay as a private ſoldier, added to the emoluments he derived from the poſts of ſerjeant major and paymaſter to his regiment, would have proved equal to every reaſonable gratification, eſpecially in a country where the neceſſaries and conveniences of life were to be procured with moderate expence.

It muſt be acknowledged that his ſeduction of his maſter's maid-ſervant and the inn-keeper's wife were offences of a moſt heinous nature: but in other reſpects his character was unimpeached; he was highly reſpected by his officers, and univerſally eſteemed by all who were acquainted with him; he was in the way to preferment, and would, in all probability, have made a diſtinguiſhed figure in life, had he been contented to proceed by the gradual advances to fortune. But from the hint given by Parker he conceived the hopes of ſpeedily amaſſing great riches, without conſidering that wealth unjuſ-

tifiably obtained muſt neceſſarily prove the ſource of affliction to the poſſeſſor.

We cannot but lament the obduracy of Young while under confinement in refuſing to be attended by the clergy; and this part of his behaviour appears the more extraordinary when we conſider that the liberal manner in which he was educated qualified him to judge of the indiſpenſable neceſſity of a ſincere repentance. This conduct can only be accounted for by ſuppoſing that he entertained the hope of eſcaping the vengeance of the law.

The caſe of this unfortunate man affords a leſſon to convince us that, legiſlative inſtitutions eſtabliſhed for the ſecurity and good order of ſociety, cannot be infringed with impunity: and be it added, that we cannot be too ſolicitous to repreſs thoſe deſires which cannot be gratified without a direct violation of this divine command: "Thou ſhalt not covet "thy neighbour's goods."

Narrative of the ſingular caſes of USHER GAHAGAN, and TERENCE CONNER, who were hanged for high treaſon.

THE county of Weſtmeath in Ireland gave birth to Uſher Gahagan, who having by the indulgence of his parents received the foundation of a liberal education, was ſent to Trinity college in Dublin, whence he was removed to one of the inns of court, in the hope of promoting him in ſome of the law departments, in which ſeveral of his relations had been particularly ſucceſsful.

He

He had been inſtructed by his parents in the Proteſtant religion; but falling into company with ſome prieſts of the Romiſh perſuaſion, they converted him to their faith, which was a principal obſtacle to his future advancement in life; for as no gentleman can be admitted a counſellor at law without taking the oaths of ſupremacy and abjuration; and as Mr. Gahagan's new faith prevented his complying with theſe terms, he declined any farther proſecution of his legal ſtudies.

His parents and other relations were greatly offended with his conduct; and thoſe who had particularly engaged themſelves for the advancement of his fortunes forbad him to viſit them, through indignation at the impropriety of his behaviour.

Thus reduced to an incapacity of ſupporting himſelf, he ſought to relieve his circumſtances by a matrimonial ſcheme; and having addreſſed the daughter of a gentleman, he obtained her in marriage, and received a good fortune with her: but treating her with undeſerved ſeverity, ſhe was compelled to return to the protection of her relations.

His conduct having now rendered him obnoxious to his acquaintance in Dublin, he quitted that city and repaired to London, with a view of ſupporting himſelf by his literary abilities.

On his arrival in the metropolis he made ſome connexions with the bookſellers; and undertook to tranſlate Pope's Eſſay on Man into Latin; but becoming connected with ſome women of abandoned character, he ſpent his time in a diſſipated manner, and thus threw himſelf out of that employment which might have afforded him a decent ſupport.

He now made an acquaintance with an Iriſhman, named Hugh Coffey, and they agreed on a plan for the diminution of the current coin. At this time Gahagan

Gahagan had a lodger named Conner (whoſe caſe will be ſeen in the ſequel of this account); and it being agreed to receive him as a partner in this iniquitous ſcheme, they procured proper tools, and having collected a ſum of money they filed it, and put it off; and procuring more, filed that alſo, and paſſed it in the ſame manner.

Having continued this buſineſs ſome months, during which they had ſaved a ſum of money, they went to the bank, and got ſome Portugal pieces, under pretence that they were intended for exportation to Ireland. Thus they got money repeatedly at the bank; but at length one of the tellers ſuſpecting their buſineſs, communicated his ſuſpicion to the governors, who directed him to drink with them, as the proper method to diſcover who they were, and what was their employment.

In purſuance of this order he, on their next appearance, invited them to drink a glaſs of wine at the Crown tavern near Cripplegate; to which they readily agreed, and met him after the hours of office.

When the circulation of the glaſs had ſufficiently warmed them, Gahagan, with a degree of weakneſs that is altogether aſtoniſhing, informed the teller that he acquired conſiderable ſums by filing gold, and even propoſed that he ſhould become a partner with them. The gentleman ſeemed to accede to this propoſal, and having learnt where they lodged, acquainted the caſhiers of the bank with what had paſſed.

On the following day Coffey was apprehended; but Gahagan and Conner, being ſuſpicious of the danger of their ſituation, retired to a public houſe called Chalk Farm, a little way out of the road from London to Hampſtead, where they carried their

their implements for filing; but Coffey having been admitted an evidence, it was not long before the place of their retreat was known; on which they were apprehended, and lodged in Newgate.

Terence Conner was a native of Ireland, and had received a moſt liberal education. It is recorded of him that he was ſo perfectly well read in the Roman hiſtory, as to be able to turn to any part of it, without the aſſiſtance of an index. He was by birth heir to a conſiderable fortune; but, his father dying without a proper adjuſtment of his affairs, ſome intricate law-ſuits were the conſequence; ſo that the whole eſtate was only ſufficient to diſcharge the demands of the gentlemen of the long robe.

Conner being reduced in circumſtances, came to London, and, becoming acquainted with Gahagan and Coffey, was concerned in diminiſhing the coin, as abovementioned.

On their trial the evidence of Coffey was poſitive; and being ſupported by collateral proofs, the jury could not helitate to find them guilty, and they received ſentence of death.

After conviction, the behaviour of theſe unhappy men was ſtrictly proper for their circumſtances: they were extremely devout, and apparently reſigned to their fate: but, anxious to evade the ignominy that attended them, they did not neglect thoſe means which they thought might have the remoteſt tendency to their preſervation; in conſequence of which Mr. Gahagan wrote the former, and Mr. Conner the latter, of the following copies of verſes.

Theſe unhappy gentlemen ſuffered at Tyburn, on the 20th of February, 1749.

To

To his royal highneſs prince George, duke of Cornwall, and eldeſt ſon to his royal highneſs Frederick, prince of Wales, on his acting the part of Cato at Leiceſter houſe.

—— Tuus jam regnat Apollo. VIRGIL.

Hail! little Cato, taught to tread the ſtage,
Awful as Cato of the Roman age;
How vaſt the hopes of thy maturer years,
When in the boy ſuch manly power appears!
Say, what ſpectator but did pleas'd admire
To hear thee talk with ſage Catonic fire!
A tender ſtripling of the royal blood
Breathing his country's liberty and good!
What rapture warm'd thy princely father's breaſt,
What joy thy ſcepter'd grandſire then confeſt,
Beholding thee, a Tyro from the ſchool,
Foreſhew the wiſdom of thy future rule;
And Ned, thy little Juba, play his part,
Half form'd by nature in Bellona's art!
Well may we ſay, when royalty thus deigns
To grace the ſtage, that now Apollo reigns,
Whoſe tuneful handmaids ſhould exult to ſee
Such regal honours done to them in thee:
Nor leſs thy ſhade, oh Addiſon, rejoice,
To find thy Cato made a Cato's choice.
Lo! Britain glories in thy years to trace
A Buſkin'd hero of the Brunſwick race;
Her ſtage now trod (tho' Collier, once thy ſcorn)
By deſtin'd monarchs, and high princes born:
Auguſta too, ſome king's allotted bride,
Adorns her ſcenes, and gives an equal pride.
But oh! when thou ſhalt once thy ſcepter wield,
And Edward ſhine dread leader of the field;

When

When thou a Cato's, he a Juba's, taſk
Perform in real action, not in maſque;
At home, when thou'lt thy country's good enhance,
While he abroad ſhall ſtem the pride of France;
When thou'lt eſtabliſh Europe's wiſh'd repoſe,
Returning he the gates of Janus cloſe;
Then, then Britannia may with reaſon boaſt,
Nor think her blood or treaſure fruitleſs loſt.
O, may ſhe hail (but late) the glorious day,
When exerciſing thus imperial ſway,
Of ſire and grandſire's virtues thou poſſeſt,
Shall gently rule, and make thy people bleſs'd;
When harraſs'd Europe, reſcued from alarms,
Shall owe her reſt to George and Edward's arms.
Rous'd with the thought, and impotently vain,
I now would launch into a nobler ſtrain;
But ſee! the captive Muſe forbids the lays,
Unfit to ſtretch the merit I would praiſe;
Such, at whoſe heels no galling ſhackles ring,
May raiſe the voice, and boldly touch the ſtring;
Cramp'd hand and foot, while I in gaol muſt ſtay,
Dreading each hour the execution day:
Pent up in den, opprobrious alms to crave,
No Delphic cell, ye Gods! nor Sybil's cave;
Nor will my Pegaſus obey the rod,
With maſſy iron barbarouſly ſhod;
Thrice I eſſay'd to force him up the height,
And thrice the painful gyves reſtrain'd his flight.
So when a ſickly ſnake attempts to creep,
Or climb ſome ſlippery rock or ditches ſteep,
Scarce half her length advanc'd, ſhe backward falls,
And in ſlow volumes languiſhingly crawls.

To her Grace the Dutcheſs of Queenſberry, a poetical Addreſs, by Terence Conner, in the Cells of Newgate.

Laturam miſero te mihi rebar opem. OVID.

Thou great protectreſs of the Aonian train,
Support in each cotemporary reign;
Brighteſt devotreſs at the Delian ſhrine,
Oft ſung and courted by the ſacred Nine;
If e'er thy kindred, of immortal fame,
The Muſes lov'd, nor ſcorn'd a poet's name;
If e'er thyſelf vouchſafe to touch the lyre,
And join'd with open voice the tuneful quire;
If on the canvaſs, to deſcribe the face,
With animated bloom, and living grace,
To draw the vernal flower, and tinging ſhape
The peach, the melon, and the ripen'd grape,
To mark each ſtory, holy or profane,
Move in the landſkip, and to viſion plain;
If theſe with courtly wit and eloquence,
Be girts, Apollo did to thee diſpenſe,
Which ſure they are, in charity regard
The meaneſt of his ſons a captive bard;
Far, far, alas! from home, and native clime,
The firſt, perhaps, that did in Newgate rhime;
The firſt, perhaps, beneath his dreadful doom,
That ever mounted the poetic loom.
O! born thyſelf of high Pierian blood,
Boaſt of the times, nor yet more learn'd than good;
Diſplay thy bounty, where a life's at ſtake,
And ſave the wretched for the poet's ſake;
The poet pent in narrow darkling cell,
With vagrants and banditties forc'd to dwell;
In pond'rous gyves of iron rudely bound,
A ſtone his pillow, and his bed the ground;

One

One penny-loaf, the banquet of a day,
And chilling water to dilute his clay;
Broke every morning of his painful reſt,
The ſcorn of turnkeys, and the keeper's jeſt;
Sternly rebuk'd if he the leaſt complains,
And menac'd with a double load of chains.
Thus day and night diſconſolate I ſpend
Unpitied, and debarr'd of every friend;
Deſerted by the Muſes, as by men,
Save Elegeia's viſits now and then;
Daughter of grief! and ever plaintive Muſe,
Taught only ſongs of ſorrow to infuſe,
Dire comfort! thankful yet am I, that ſhe
Inſpires theſe lines, O Queensberry! to thee.
Thou then, from infant years brought up at courts,
Directreſs of their houſhold and their ſports;
The brilliant grace of both the Georges age,
In wit facetious, and in council ſage,
Allow, as heretofore, the ſame acceſs,
Pity this bard, and baniſh his diſtreſs;
Maintain the glory of thy former days,
And intercede to ſave a ſon of Gay's *;
Nor be it ever ſaid in in Britiſh land,
That a poor bard was mercileſsly hang'd.

It is a ſhocking conſideration, that men, ſo liberally educated as Gahagan and Conner, could deliberately plunge into the commiſſion of a crime big with ſuch fatal conſequences as that of diminiſhing the current coin of the realm: a crime which is the more cruel, as it is the moſt palpable robbery of the poor; for though

* It is worthy of remembrance that the dutcheſs of Queenſberry was the diſtinguiſhed patroneſs of Gay, the author of the Beggars Opera.

light money has, till within theſe few years, currently paſſed when paid away in large quantities, yet when a ſingle piece happens to fall into the hands of thoſe who have no other, the diſtreſs that it may occaſion is inexpreſſible. One would think this conſideration alone might prevent the commiſſion of ſuch an offence; for if the offenders are influenced by poverty, they ſhould conſider that the diſhoneſt mode of life they adopt tends principally to injure thoſe who are ſtill poorer than themſelves!

The writer of this remembers the evidence Coffey, ſome years after the death of his accomplices; and a miſerable wretch was he: he ſeemed to have no comfort of his life; probably from the reflection of the diſagreeable ſcenes in which he had been engaged, and the ſhare he had taken in bringing his brethren in iniquity to juſtice.

Notwithſtanding the wiſdom of the law in admitting the evidence of accomplices, it cannot be preſumed that any man, who has thus been the legal means of depriving another of life, can enjoy his own life afterwards. The beſt, the moſt effectual method to preſerve peace of mind, is not to give occaſion to compunction. To "do juſtice and love mercy" is a rule of conduct every way worthy of its divine author!

Narrative of the extraordinary Caſes of TAPNER, COBBY, and the other Smugglers, who were hanged for the Murder of CHATER and GALLEY, Cuſtom-houſe Officers.

THE crime for which theſe men ſuffered was of ſo horrid and unprovoked a nature, that the nobility and gentry of Suſſex requeſted his majeſty that

that a ſpecial commiſſion for their trials might be iſſued; and in conſequence hereof ſuch ſpecial commiſſion was appointed to be held at Chicheſter on the 16th of January 1749, when Benjamin Tapner, John Cobby, John Hammond, William Jackſon, William Carter, Richard Mills the elder, and Richard Mills the younger, were indicted for the murder of Daniel Chater; the three firſt as principals, and the others as acceſſaries before the fact: and William Jackſon and William Carter were indicted for the murder of William Galley.

Before we proceed to give an account of the conviction, we ſhall relate what we know of the parties themſelves, and of the circumſtances that led to the commiſſion of the enormous crime for which they ſuffered.

Benjamin Tapner was a native of Aldington in Suſſex, and worked for ſome time as a Bricklayer; but being of an idle diſpoſition, he ſoon quitted his buſineſs, and aſſociated with a gang of ſmugglers, who had rendered themſelves formidable to the neighbourhood by their lawleſs depredations.

John Cobby was an illiterate country fellow, the ſon of James Cobby of the county of Suſſex, labourer, and joined the ſmugglers a little time before he was thirty years of age.

John Hammond was a labouring man, born at Berſtead in Suſſex; and had been a ſmuggler ſome time before he was apprehended for the abovementioned murders, which was when he was almoſt forty years old.

William Jackson was a native of Hampſhire, and had a wife and large family. He was brought up to the buſineſs of huſbandry; but the hope of acquiring more money in an eaſier way induced him to engage with the ſmugglers, which at length ended in his ruin.

William

WILLIAM CARTER, of Rowland's Caſtle in Hampſhire, was the ſon of William Carter of Eaſtmean, of the ſame county, Thatcher. He was about the age of thirty-nine; and had practiſed ſmuggling a conſiderable time before the perpetration of the fact which led to his deſtruction.

RICHARD MILLS, the elder, was a native of Trotton in Suſſex, and had been a horſe-dealer by profeſſion; but it is ſaid that a failure in that buſineſs induced him to commence ſmuggler, and he had been long enough in that illicit practice to become one of the moſt hardened of the gang.

RICHARD MILLS the younger lived at Stedham in Suſſex, and for ſome time followed his father's profeſſion of horſe-dealing: but unfortunately making a connection with the ſmugglers he came to the ſame ignominious end as his companions, in the thirty-ſeventh year of his age.

It will be now proper to remark that, in the year 1747, a moſt abandoned gang of villains having broken open the Cuſtom-houſe at Pool, and carried off effects to a conſiderable amount, the king's proclamation was iſſued, offering a reward for the apprehenſion of the offenders.

In conſequence of this proclamation a man named Dimar was taken up on ſuſpicion, and lodged in Chicheſter goal; and the commiſſioners of the cuſtoms being made acquainted with this circumſtance they wrote to the collector of the cuſtoms at Southampton, hinting that as Dimar was born in that town, it might be proper to ſend ſome perſon to Chicheſter who knew the priſoner, that his perſon might be identified on the trial.

The collector recollecting that Daniel Chater was acquainted with Dimar, and had heard him mention ſomething reſpecting the breaking open the Cuſtom-

Cuſtom-houſe at Pool, he diſpatched Chater, in company with William Galley, an officer of the cuſtoms, that they might be examined by the ſurveyor at Chicheſter.

On the 14th of February, 1748, Chater and Galley ſet out in company, and having rode to Leigh in Hampſhire, enquired their way to Eaſtmardon in Suſſex, at a public houſe where they ſtopped for refreſhment.

At this time ſeveral ſmugglers were in the houſe, and one of them obſerving Galley take a letter from his pocket, directed to Mr. Battine, ſurveyor at Chicheſter, he conjectured that the buſineſs of the officers was to give evidence againſt Dimar: on which the ſmugglers told them, that they had miſſed their way by ten miles; and added, that they would go with them, and put them into the right road.

This offer, ſo apparently generous, being accepted, they all travelled in company ſome miles, and then ſtopped to drink at the houſe of a widow named Payne, who had two ſons that were concerned in the illicit practice of ſmuggling. Mrs. Payne informed her ſons that ſhe ſuſpected the two ſtrangers to be cuſtom-houſe officers; on which the young fellows went out, and brought in ſome of their companions. In the interim Chater and Galley drank plentifully; and the liquor opening their hearts, they were ſo much off their guard, as to talk ſo freely, that the ſmugglers became well acquainted with their buſineſs and connexions.

Having drunk about ſix hours, they ſlept about two more, when it was eight o'clock at night; at which time Jackſon ſtruck them, and bade them ariſe, for they ſhould ſtay there no longer.

Hereupon the unhappy men got on horſeback, and were attended by the ſmugglers, who for a while

while debated how to diſpoſe of them. Some of the company propoſed to confine them till they could find a convenient opportunity of tranſporting them to France; but this was oppoſed by the greater number of the gang.

It was not long after they quitted Mrs. Payne's houſe when the ſmugglers began to whip them in a manner too inhuman to be deſcribed. This ſeverity was continued about half a mile, till they reached a place called Wood-aſhes, where the ſmugglers drank each of them a glaſs of brandy.

Proceeding thence, they continued to whip the unhappy men a mile farther, when apprehending they would drop to the ground, they tied their feet under the bellies of their horſes: but, notwithſtanding this caution, the poor wretches dropped through extremity of pain, and their heads dragged on the ground.

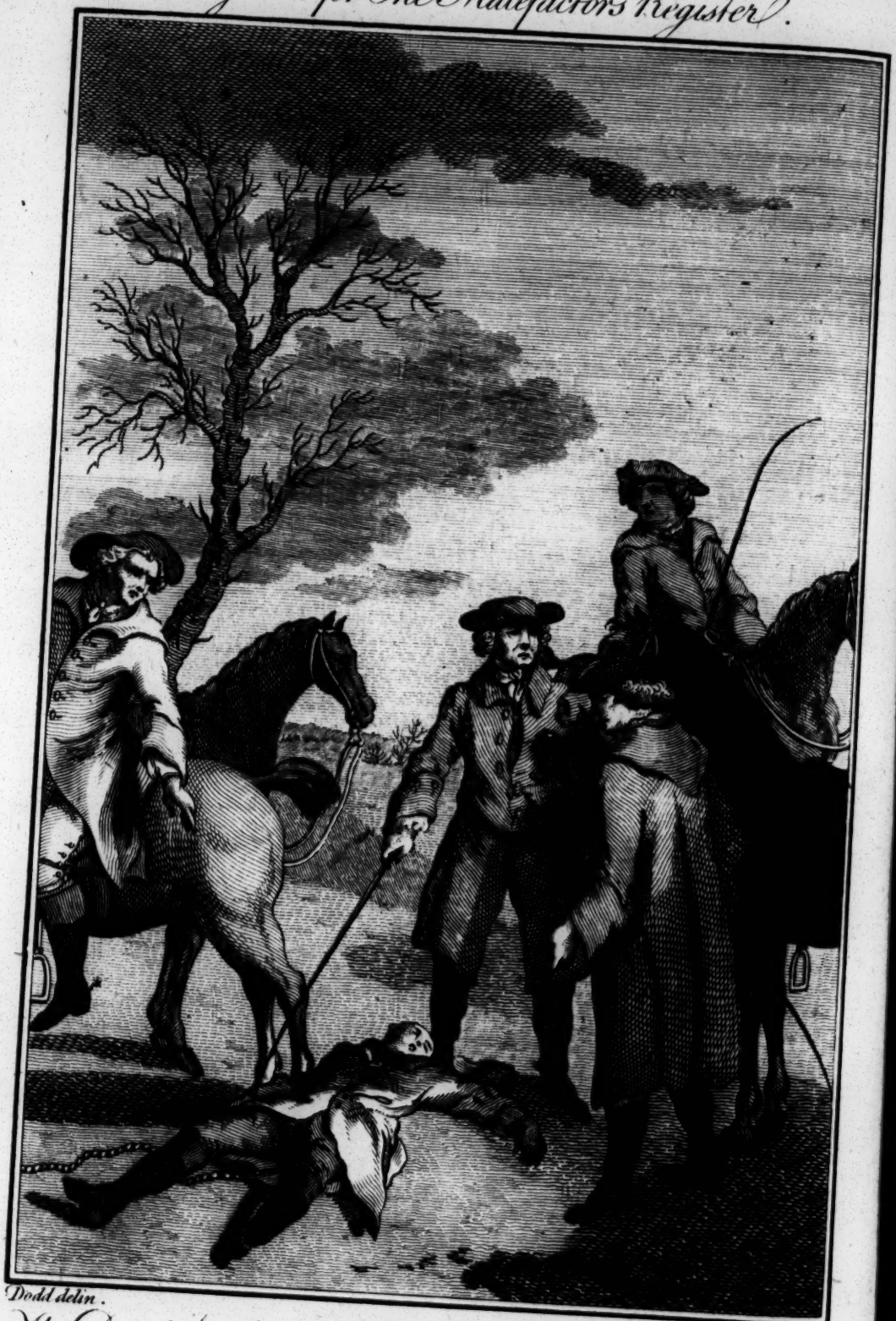
The intentional murderers, callous to all the feelings of humanity, now replaced them on their horſes, and continued to whip them as they had before done, till they came to Goodthorp-Dean, at the diſtance of half a mile more, where they ſtopped, and again beat them with the utmoſt ſeverity. One of the ſmugglers now produced a piſtol, and ſwore he would ſhoot the poor men through the head, if they made any noiſe till they had got paſt the village.

Proceeding forwards, they once more beat them as before, and the unhappy victims to undeſerved barbarity fell under the bellies of the horſes when they were about a quarter of a mile out of the village. Their ſufferings by this time were ſo great, that they were half dead; on which the ſmugglers took them from their horſes, and placed each of them behind one of their own companions.

In

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Engraved for The Malefactor's Register.



Dodd delin.

Rennoldson sculp.

The Dead Body of Wm GALLEY, who was cruelly murder'd by the SMUGGLERS of Kent, Sussex, &c.

In this manner they went forward till they arrived at a place called Lady-Holt-park, * where the ſmugglers took Galley from the horſe, with an intention of throwing him into a well: and indeed his ſufferings had been by this time ſo extreme, that he might wiſh to have got rid of the burden of life at any rate.

At this juncture ſome of the ſmugglers objected to the throwing him into the well; on which he was again placed on the horſe; but he had not rode far, before he was ſo weak as to be unable to keep his ſeat; whereupon he was taken off, and laid acroſs the horſe, with his belly downwards; and having been thus carried more than a mile, he was placed with his legs acroſs the ſaddle, but his body hung over the neck of the horſe.

During the tranſacting theſe ſcenes of inhumanity, Galley cried out, "Barbarous uſage! for God's "ſake, ſhoot me through the head, or through "the body!" But, inſtead of complying with his requeſt, they faſtened him to the horſe with a cord, and one of the ſmugglers rode behind him: but in going down a hill, he fell from the horſe, and expired on the ſpot.

The villains were afraid to leave the body of the deceaſed on the road, but put it again acroſs the horſe, and conveyed it to the houſe of a ſmuggler in the neighbourhood, with whom they conferred as to the mode of diſpoſing of it. This man adviſed them to carry it to the diſtance of three quarters of a mile and bury it; and went with them to ſhew them a proper ſpot: and when they came there

* Not lady Holt's park, as printed in other books of this kind.

they dug a grave, and threw in the body, throwing the earth over it.

This tranſaction happened on the 13th of February; and on the 13th of September following (a diſtance of ſeven months), a gentleman named Stone, being on a party of hunting, diſcovered the grave; and the place being ſearched, the body was found, though in a corrupted ſtate. The coat and boots were likewiſe found; the former retaining its original colour, and in the pocket was found Mr. Galley's deputation from the commiſſioners of the cuſtoms. In the mean time ſeveral of the murderers had fled to France, in order to ſcreen themſelves from the juſtice of their country; but ſome of them were afterwards admitted evidences, in order to enforce this juſtice. But it is now proper that we ſhould advert to the caſe of the other unfortunate ſufferer.

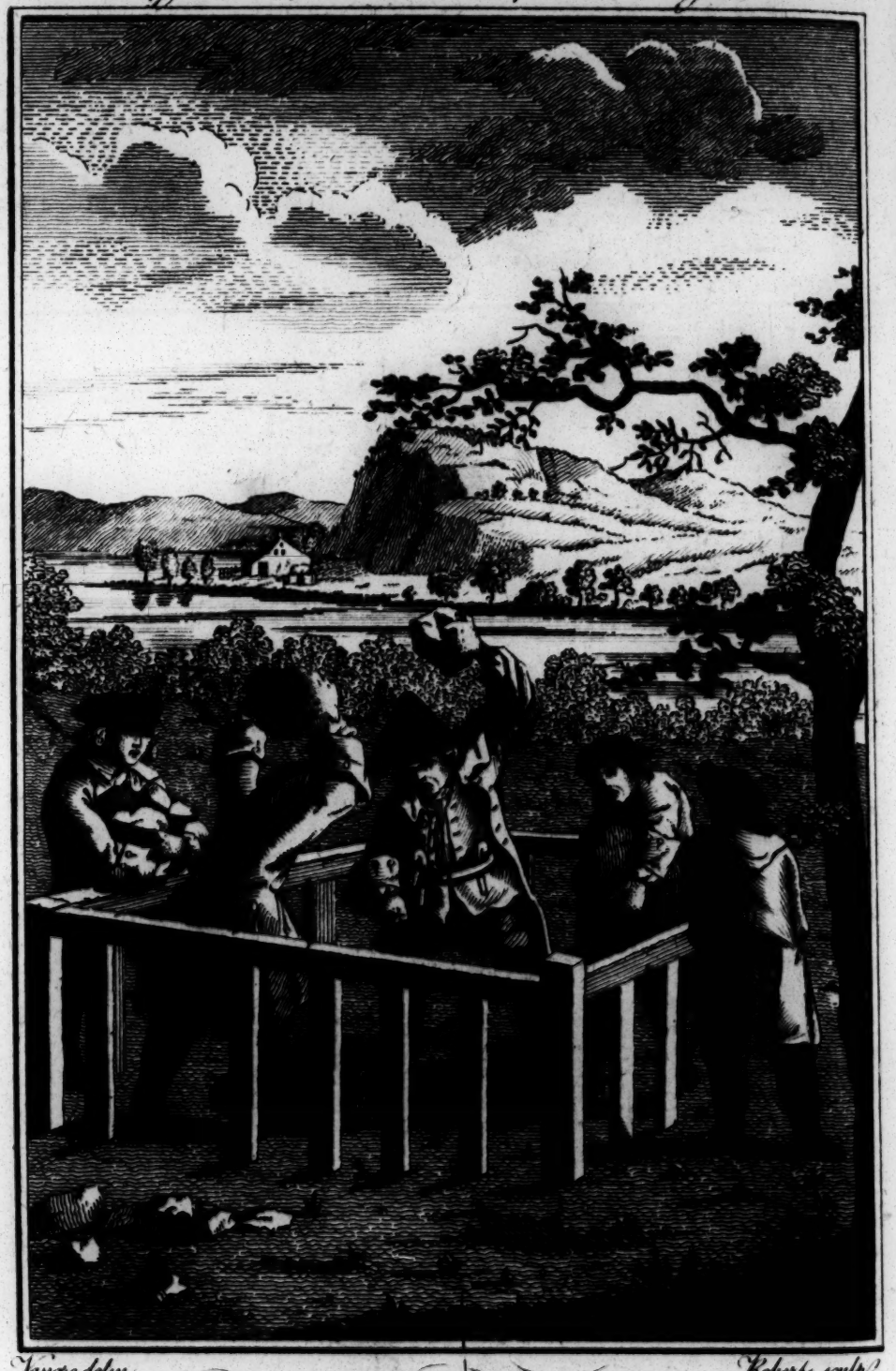
The ſmugglers having diſpoſed of Galley, took Chater to the houſe of old Mills, one of their accomplices in iniquity, where they chained him to a ſtake in an outhouſe where turf was kept, and in this place he remained three days.

While he was in this ſituation Tapner pulled out a claſped knife, and ſwearing he would be his butcher, cut him over both his eyes, and down his forehead, ſo that he bled to a great degree. He was directed to ſay his prayers, for (to uſe their own language) "they were come to kill him, and kill "him they would." This ſpeech was particularly made uſe of by Tapner, and none of the company interpoſed to ſave his life.

At length one of them unlocked the chain, and put him on horſeback, to carry him to the well in Lady-Holt-park, where having arrived, three of them got off their horſes, and Tapner having tied a cord

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Engraved for The Malefactor's Register.



Vangro delin *Roberts sculp*

The Bloody and Inhuman **SMUGGLERS** *throwing down Stones &c. on the expiring Body of* **DANIEL CHATER**, *whom they had flung into Lady-Holt-Well.*

cord round his neck, led him forwards, when ſeeing ſome pales that ſurrounded the well broke down, he would have gone through the opening; but Tapner ſaid, "No, you ſhall get over;" which he did, with the rope about his neck.

They then put him into the well, and hung him, winding the rope about the paling; and when his body had hung thus about a quarter of an hour, one of them took hold of his legs, and let his head fall foremoſt into the well; and Tapner looſening the rope, the body fell to the bottom of the well. This being done, they remained ſome time, when one of the company ſaying he thought he heard him breathe, they threw a gate-poſt or two into the well, and then departed.

On their return home theſe execrable murderers ſtopped at the houſe of one of their acquaintance to drink, where they were hardened enough to boaſt of the outrage they had committed, and even ſpoke of it as a circumſtance that merited praiſe.

After a long and diligent ſearch for the perpetrators of theſe crimes, ſome of the ſmugglers were taken up on ſuſpicion, and being examined in preſence of the commiſſioners of the cuſtoms, were admitted evidences for the crown, on diſcovering all they knew of the horrid tranſaction.

In conſequence hereof the priſoners were brought to trial at the time and place abovementioned; when ſir Michael Foſter preſided in court.

The judge's charge to the grand jury was full of good ſenſe, and highly reprobated the practice of ſmuggling, by which the fair trader is defrauded, and the revenue greatly injured.

When the trial came on, the evidence was very full and circumſtantial againſt the priſoners; and the jury, after being out of court about a quarter

of an hour, brought in a verdict of guilty againſt all the priſoners: whereupon the judge pronounced ſentence on the convicts, in one of the moſt pathetic addreſſes that was ever heard; repreſenting the enormity of their crime, and exhorting them to make immediate preparation for the awful fate that awaited them: adding that "chriſtian charity "obliges me to tell you, that your time in this "world will be very ſhort."

The heinouſneſs of the crime of which theſe men had been convicted, rendering it neceſſary that their puniſhment ſhould be exemplary, the judge ordered that they ſhould be executed on the following day; and the ſentence was accordingly carried into execution againſt all but Jackſon, who died in priſon on the evening that he was condemned.

They were hanged at Chicheſter on the 18th of January 1749, amidſt ſuch a concourſe of ſpectators as is ſeldom ſeen on occaſion of a public execution.

Carter was hung in chains near Rake in Suſſex; Tapner on Rooks-hill, near Chicheſter; and Cobby and Hammond on the Sea-coaſt, near a place called Selſey-bill in Suſſex, where they could be ſeen to a great diſtance Eaſt and Weſt.

Jackſon had lived ſome years a Roman Catholic; and, from the following Popiſh relict found in his pocket, there is little doubt but he died ſuch.

Sancti tres reges,
Gaſpar, Melchior, Belthazar,
Orate pro nobis, nunc et in hora
Mortis noſtræ.
Ces billets ont touchè aux trois tetes de
S. S. Rois a Cologne.
Ils ſont pour des voyageurs, contre les malheurs de chemins, maux de tete, mal caduque, fievres, ſocellerie, toute ſorte de malefice, et mort ſubite.

The

The Engliſh of which is,

Ye three holy kings,
Gaſpar, Melchior, Belthazar,
Pray for us now, and in the hour of death.
Theſe papers have touched the three heads of
The holy kings of Cologne.

They are to preſerve travellers from accidents on the road, head-achs, falling ſickneſs, fevers, witch-craft, all kinds of miſchief, and ſudden-death.

The body of the abovementioned Jackſon was thrown into a hole near the place of execution; as were the bodies of Mills, the father and ſon, who had no friends to take them away; and at a ſmall diſtance from this ſpot is erected a ſtone, on which is the following inſcription:

Near this place was buried the body of William Jackſon, who upon a ſpecial commiſſion of Oyer and Terminer, held at Chicheſter, on the 16th day of January, 1748-9, was, with William Carter, attainted for the murder of William Galley, Cuſtom-Houſe Officer; and who likewiſe was, together with Benjamin Tapner, John Cobby, John Hammond, Richard Mills the elder, Richard Mills the younger, his ſon, attainted for the murder of Daniel Chater; but dying in a few hours after ſentence of death was pronounced upon him, he thereby eſcaped the puniſhment which the heinouſneſs of his complicated crimes deſerved, and which was, the next day, moſt juſtly inflicted upon his accomplices.

As a memorial to poſterity, and a warning to this, and ſucceeding generations,
This ſtone is erected.
A. D. 1749.

It

It is impoſſible to ſpeak of the unprovoked barbarity of theſe murders in terms ſuch as they deſerve. We have ſeldom heard of offences ſo atrocious; and we ought to hope that nothing approaching to them in wickedneſs will ever again reach our knowledge.

Thoſe who conſider the practice of ſmuggling as a venial crime, will ſee, in this inſtance, how naturally it led to murder. In fact, it cannot be a ſmall offence; for government muſt be ſupported for the protection of the people at large; or all things would fall into anarchy and confuſion.

We are ſenſible that the people of this country are taxed in a high degree; but the inhabitants of Holland are much more ſeverely taxed; yet their induſtry, their cloſe attention to trade, ſupports them in affluence; and though they pay more duties than any other people, they are ſome of the happieſt in Europe.

Hence let us learn that "honeſty is the beſt po-"licy," and that "the hand of the diligent "maketh rich:" and above all things let us avoid the horrid crime of murder; which is a violation of all the rights of humanity, and an inſult offered to the God who created us.

Singular caſe of BRIAN SEYMOUR, who was hanged for murder.

THIS man was born at Waterford in Ireland, his father being a corporal in a marching regiment that was quartered there; but having obtained a penſion in England, he came to London, and left the

the boy to be taken care of by ſome friends in Ireland.

Having followed the buſineſs of huſbandry till the eighteenth year of his age, he came to England to ſee his father; but on his way to London he enliſted in the ſixth regiment of foot, and ſoon afterwards embarking for Flanders, had a ſhare in the memorable battle of Fontenoy.

The rebellion in 1745 occaſioned his being ſent to England, when he ſerved under general Wade, who then commanded in Yorkſhire; but marching thence to Newcaſtle, Seymour had there a quarrel with a ſoldier, reſpecting a woman of ill fame; and a duel enſuing, his antagoniſt was killed: but the troubleſome ſituation of affairs induced the general to grant Seymour a free pardon, without a minute ſcrutiny into his conduct.

Proceeding to Scotland, this man was preſent at the battle of Culloden, where he behaved with ſingular courage; but the regiment in which he ſerved having been greatly injured, was ordered into winter quarters at Edinburgh, where the indulgence of his irregular paſſions gave riſe to the crime which coſt him his life.

At this time it was cuſtomary for ſome of the miniſters of the church of Scotland who were out of employment, to marry people at alehouſes, in the ſame manner that the Fleet marriages were conducted in London. Sometimes people of fortune thought it prudent to apply to theſe reverend marriage-brokers; but as their chief buſineſs lay among the lower ranks of people, they were deridingly called by the name of "Buckle the Beggars."

Moſt of theſe marriages were ſolemnized at public houſes in the Cannongate; and Seymour happening to be preſent when a couple came to be married,

married, and no prieſt preſent, he whiſpered the landlady, that if ſhe would procure him a ſuit of black, he would officiate as the parſon. The woman, unwilling to loſe a cuſtomer, procured the cloaths, and Seymour being dreſſed in them, went into the room where the young couple waited, aſſuming the grave deportment of a real clergyman.

The lady who was to be married hinting that ſhe did not think he was a miniſter, he ſolemnly averred that he was, and the marriage took place accordingly.

Before ten o'clock at night Seymour was obliged to return to the barracks in the caſtle; but by this time he was ſo much intoxicated, that he was prepared to affront every one he met. When he came to the Lawn-market, he ran againſt a gentleman's ſervant named Johnſon, who being irritated, ſtruck Seymour a blow on the face: on which the latter drew his ſword, and ſtabbed Johnſon, ſo that he inſtantly died; when the murderer put up his ſword, and proceeded towards the caſtle: but a ſhoe-maker, named Young, having obſerved what had paſſed, followed Seymour to the gate of the caſtle; but the clock ſtriking ten at that inſtant, the draw-bridge was pulled up, ſo that Young could not be admitted for that night.

On the following morning Young went to the Lord Juſtice Clerk, and informing him of what he knew of the tranſaction, offered his aſſiſtance in diſcovering the murderer; on which his lordſhip ordered an officer to attend him, and directed the governor to let him have a ſight of all the ſoldiers.

At ten o'clock the men were drawn up on the parade, and Young walking round the lines, fixed on Seymour as the man who had committed the murder; whereupon he was delivered up, to abide the determination of the laws.

On the trial, Young poſitively ſwore to the identity of the offender; and much other evidence ariſing to prove that he was the party, he was capitally convicted, and ſentence of death was pronounced againſt him.

This offender denied his guilt for ſome time, and hinted that Young was perjured; but he afterwards became truly ſenſible of the enormity of his crime, and confeſſed it with all its aggravating circumſtances. Two clergymen attended him to the place of execution, to which he walked, dreſſed in a ſhroud, and reading a book; a ſight which would be deemed very extraordinary in England.

He was hanged at Edinburgh on the 2d of March, 1749; after which his body was buried in the church-yard belonging to the caſtle.

This offender ſeems to have fallen a ſacrifice to his ungovernable paſſions enflamed by liquor: and his fate ought to afford a warning not only to people in his ſphere of life, but to all others, of whatever degree, to avoid the crime of drunkenneſs, as what may naturally be ſuppoſed to lead to the commiſſion of greater. The drunkard is off his guard during the operation of the liquor, and fitted almoſt for the perpetration of any crime. It is common to ſay that a man is "as drunk as a "beaſt;" but we ſhould remember that the brute animals are never intoxicated. The moſt wholeſome beverage forms their copious draught; and the human creature who abandons himſelf to the practice of intoxication, is degraded below "the "beaſts that periſh!" Sobriety is itſelf a virtue; and productive of many of thoſe other virtues which do honour to humanity.

Narrative of the very ſingular caſes of JOHN COLLINGTON, and JOHN STONE, who were hanged for ſetting fire to a barn.

THE father of JOHN COLLINGTON was rector of Pluckley, near Sandwich, in Kent; and the youth was qualified, by a moſt liberal education, and his great natural talents, to have made a very reſpectable figure in life: but his paſſions were ſo violent, and his revenge ſo implacable, that all who knew him beheld him with horror.

He uſed to declare that he would be a ſincere friend, but an inveterate foe; and even while at ſchool created ſuch diſſentions among the other ſcholars, that he was held in univerſal contempt, and was diſcharged from more ſchools than one with marks of ignominy.

At length his father apprenticed him to a grocer in Newgate Street, London, but he behaved in ſuch a manner as to become an object of terror to his fellow-ſervants. The following circumſtance, trifling as it is, will ſerve to mark his diſpoſition. One of the maid-ſervants deſiring him to fetch ſome muſtard, he went out for that purpoſe; but calling a coach at the door, he drove to Cheapſide, purchaſed the muſtard, and, on his return, paid the fare out of his maſter's money in the till. The maſter, aſtoniſhed at his behaviour, demanded the reaſon of it: when he gave for anſwer, that "his "parents had not bound him apprentice to be an "errand-boy."

On another occaſion he aſked his maſter's permiſſion to viſit his relations for a fortnight, and his requeſt was complied with. When the time of his departure arrived, his maſter being abſent, he aſked

aſked his miſtreſs to give him leave to ſtay three weeks. To which ſhe conſented; but he returned not till the end of five weeks; and his maſter enquiring why he had been ſo long abſent, Collington replied that he had allowed him a fortnight, and his miſtreſs three weeks, ſo that he had not outſtaid his time. This duplicity of conduct incenſed the maſter ſo, that he gave up his indentures, and diſcharged him.

Having ſerved the remainder of his apprenticeſhip with a grocer of Maidſtone, he opened a ſhop at Rye in Suſſex, where he lived for ſome years; but his temper was ſo bad, that he fomented perpetual diſcord among his neighbours, in conſequence of which law-ſuits aroſe, and ſcarce any one would deal with a man whom every one had reaſon to hate.

From this place he went to Charing in Kent, where he likewiſe kept a ſhop a conſiderable time; but the ſame conduct which had rendered him an object of contempt at Rye, made him equally obnoxious to the inhabitants of this latter place.

Collington had not been long in buſineſs before he married a young lady, with whom he received a conſiderable fortune, and by whom he had ten children, four of whom were living at the time of the father's fatal exit.

The conduct of this man towards his wife and children was the moſt extravagant that can be imagined. The ſix children who died he buried in his own garden, nor would he permit any of them to be baptized. He frequently beat his children in a barbarous manner; and when the mother interpoſed in their behalf, he uſed to confine her whole nights in a ſaw-pit.

Being remarkably fond of ſporting, his wife, when big with child, requeſted that he would pro-

cure her a partridge; in conſequence of which he went out, and ſhot ſeveral: but when the birds were dreſſed, and ready for the table, one of the children happening to offend him, he corrected it in ſo ſevere a manner, as to endanger its life: and the mother interpoſing for the preſervation of the child, he was ſo enraged, that he cut the partridges in pieces, and threw them to the cats and dogs.

This inſtance of worſe than ſavage ferocity ſo affected his wife, that ſhe fell into fits, and miſcarried: but ſhe had not been long recovered, when, on her interpoſing in behalf of one of the children whom he was treating with ſeverity, he threw her down ſtairs, and ſtamped on her breaſt, which gave riſe to a cancer that occaſioned her death.

Collington's father dying ſoon after this event, he ſucceeded to a good eſtate at Throwleigh in Kent, to which place he removed; and took to the practice of exporting wool contrary to law, for which he was proſecuted in the court of exchequer, and convicted to pay a large penalty; but he avoided payment by having previouſly conveyed his eſtate to another, and then ſwearing that he was not worth five pounds.

This man being paſſionately fond of hunting, was frequently proſecuted for offending againſt the game laws, by which he was put to almoſt continual expence.

Notwithſtanding the treatment his firſt wife had received from him, he ſoon married a ſecond, by whom he had ſix children; and four of theſe, beſides the ſame number by the former marriage (as we have mentioned), were living at the time of his death.

At length his offences againſt the laws made for the preſervation of the game became ſo numerous, that

that the dowager counteſs of Rockingham built a cottage, in which ſhe placed one of her ſervants, as a ſpy upon his conduct.

Collington, incenſed by this circumſtance, tempted a poor countryman to ſet fire to the cottage: but the man had courage and honeſty to reſiſt the temptation. Hereupon Collington took one of his ſervants named Luckhurſt to Feverſham in Kent, at the time of the fair, and on their way thither told him he would give him half a guinea to fire the ſaid cottage; which the man received, and promiſed to comply.

On the following day, when Luckhurſt recollected the nature of the contract he had been making, his mind was ſo diſturbed that he went to Collington, and offered back the money, declaring that he would have no ſhare in the tranſaction. Collington was ſo enraged, that he threatened to deſtroy him, unleſs he kept the money, and did as he had agreed: the conſequence of which was, the man fired the cottage at midnight, by which it was reduced to the ground.

Collington was ſo neglectful of his children, that he would not buy them neceſſary apparel; ſo that they appeared like beggars; nor would he even pay for their learning to read. The following is a ſtriking proof of his want of humanity. One of his ſons, a boy of twelve years old, having offended him, he confined him in a ſaw-pit, where he muſt have been ſtarved, but that he was occaſionally ſupplied with food by the humanity of the ſervants: and for this conduct their brutal maſter turned them out of the houſe without paying what was due to them.

This inhuman father then refuſed to maintain his ſon, ſo that the child abſolutely begged his bread

bread in the neighbourhood: but he had not wandered long in this manner, when Mr. Clarke, the churchwarden, received him into his houſe, and provided for him till the quarter ſeſſions, when he ſubmitted the caſe to the conſideration of the magiſtrates.

Theſe gentlemen, having reflected that Mr. Collington was in affluent circumſtances, gave directions that the child ſhould be properly provided for, and iſſued a warrant for ſeizing on part of the father's effects to defray the charge. This warrant was executed by a conſtable whom Clarke attended; a circumſtance which gave ſuch offence to Collington, that he vowed revenge, and bade Clarke make his will.

After this he hired five fellows to go to Mr. Clarke's houſe, and demand the child, on pretence that he belonged to a ſhip: but Mr. Clarke having the magiſtrate's order for his proceedings, ſaid he was willing to anſwer for his conduct before any juſtice of the peace. No ſooner had he thus expreſſed himſelf, than they beat him in the moſt violent degree, and threatened his inſtant deſtruction, unleſs he conſented to accompany them.

Theſe threats had ſuch an effect, that he mounted a horſe behind one of them; but as they were riding along, he jumped off, and ran into the court-yard of a gentleman, whoſe gate happened to ſtand open; while the other parties fired at him; but he eſcaped unhurt. Here he remained till the following day, when he went to his own houſe, and thence to a magiſtrate, before whom he ſwore the peace * againſt Collington; on which the ma-

* Swearing the peace, as it is called, is the depoſition of one perſon, that his life is endangered by the practices of another.

giſtrate

giſtrate granted his warrant for the apprehenſion of the offender, who, refuſing to give bail for his good behaviour, was lodged in the gaol of Canterbury.

During his confinement he continually threatened vengeance againſt Clarke; and to execute his purpoſe he ſent for a labouring man, named Stone, and the abovementioned Luckhurſt, and offered them a guinea each, on the condition of their ſetting fire to Mr. Clarke's barn, in which a conſiderable quantity of corn was depoſited. The villains, agreeing to this bargain, fired the barn at midnight, and likewiſe a number of hay-ricks, all of which were deſtroyed.

Mr. Clarke, ſuſpecting that Collington was the contriver of this horrid ſcheme, made application to a magiſtrate, who iſſued an order that the priſoner ſhould be more cloſely confined, and that the gaol-keeper ſhould take particular notice of his viſitors. This precaution led to a diſcovery of the offenders: for Luckhurſt coming to procure more money of Collington, he was taken into cuſtody, and conducted before a juſtice of the peace, to whom he confeſſed the affair; and being admitted an evidence, Stone was ſoon taken up as one of the principals.

At the following aſſizes held at Maidſtone, Collington and Stone were brought to trial; when the former turned his back on the court, with an air of ſuch utter contempt, that the judge declared he had never been witneſs to ſuch a ſcene of inſolence.

The priſoners, being convicted on the fulleſt evidence, were carried back to Canterbury, where the debtors commiſerated their unhappy circumſtances: but Collington made a jeſt of his ſituation,

and

and ſwore he did not regard it, as he was certain of obtaining the royal mercy.

This hardened villain likewiſe encouraged Stone to hope for mercy, as he could get him included in the pardon; but the event proved how much he was miſtaken in his conjecture.

Collington's wife coming to viſit him, was ſo affected with her grief as to be unable to ſpeak to him for a conſiderable time; yet was he ſo hardened as not to feel for her ſituation; but bade her not give herſelf the leaſt concern, as he was certain of getting a reprieve; and hoped to live to revenge himſelf on his enemies, even if he ſhould be tranſported.

He frequently expreſſed himſelf in the moſt revengeful terms againſt his proſecutors; and appeared, in other reſpects, ſo deſtitute of all the feelings of humanity, that his conduct ſurprized every one who was witneſs to it. Thus he ſpent his time without preparing for the ſentence that he was to ſuffer, and ſtill boaſting to his viſitors that the rank of life he held as a gentleman would ſecure him a reprieve.

Luckhurſt, who had been evidence againſt him, being apprehended for committing a robbery on the highway, Collington thought this a fair opportunity to ſolicit a reprieve; for which purpoſe he diſpatched an expreſs to the duke of Newcaſtle; but the anſwer he received was, that he muſt not expect any favour, for that the gentlemen of the county had exerted their influence that the law might be permitted to take its courſe.

On being informed that the warrant for his execution was arrived, his boaſted courage left him for a ſhort time; but recollecting himſelf, he enquired if Stone was included in the warrant; and being anſwered

anſwered in the affirmative, ſaid he lamented his ſituation more than his own. After this he ſoon recovered his ſpirits, and ſtill flattered himſelf with the hope of being pardoned.

The day preceding his execution he was viſited by his wife and ſeveral relations, who adviſed him to make a ſerious preparation for his approaching death; and aſked him where he would be buried. This queſtion enflamed all his paſſions, ſo that he ſwore he would not be hanged: but ſoon afterwards calling for a glaſs of wine, he drank it, ſaying, "Let "us eat and drink, for to-morrow we die."

On the following day Collington was conveyed to the place of execution in a mourning coach, and Stone in a cart; and both of them being placed under the gallows, Collington prayed with the miniſter, but declined making any ſpeech to the ſurrounding multitude.

Theſe men ſuffered at Canterbury on the 7th of April, 1749.

It is impoſſible to find terms of indignation properly expreſſive of the feelings of an honeſt mind on reading this narrative. The diſpoſition of Collington appears to have been that of a devil in the human ſhape. His heart was hardened againſt his fellow-creatures in general; and againſt even thoſe who, being the neareſt, ought to have been the deareſt to him. His wives and children certainly ſhould have been the objects of his tendereſt compaſſion; inſtead of which we find them thoſe of his implacable barbarity.

Stone, though highly criminal, will be conſidered as much leſs ſo than his ſavage employer. His ignorance, his poverty, will plead a little in his behalf: and though nothing can excuſe the horrid crime of which he was guilty, we may be allowed to drop a

tear of humanity on the grave of a man, whoſe diſtreſſes may have tempted him to liſten to the ſeductions of a vile incendiary.

On the whole, the fate of theſe men ſhould teach us to keep our paſſions in a due ſubordination, and to regulate all our conduct by the principles of reaſon and religion. Thus may we hope to live in credit and eſteem, and to die lamented by the wiſe and the virtuous!

Narrative of the extraordinary caſe of RICHARD COLEMAN, who was hanged for a murder of which he was not guilty.

RICHARD Coleman was indicted at the aſſizes held at Kingſton in Surry, in March 1749, for the murder of Sarah Green, on the 23d of July preceding; when he was capitally convicted.

Mr. Coleman had received a decent education, and was clerk to a brewer at the time the affair happened which coſt him his life; and had a wife and ſeveral children, who were reduced to accept the bounty of the pariſh, in conſequence of his conviction.

The murdered perſon was Sarah Green, who, having been with ſome acquaintance to a beanfeaſt in Kennington lane, ſtaid to a late hour, and on her return towards Southwark, ſhe met with three men, who had the appearance of brewers' ſervants, two of whom lay with her by force, and otherwiſe uſed her in ſo inhuman a manner as will bear no deſcription.

Such

Such was the ill-treatment ſhe had received, that it was two o'clock in the morning before ſhe was able to reach her lodgings, and on the following day was ſo ill, that ſhe informed ſeveral people how ſhe had been treated; on which ſhe was ſent to St. Thomas's hoſpital.

While in the hoſpital ſhe declared that the clerk in Taylor's (then Berry's) brewhouſe was one of the parties who had treated her in ſuch an infamous manner; and it was ſuppoſed that Coleman was the perſon to whom ſhe alluded.

Two days after the ſhocking tranſaction had happened, Coleman and one Daniel Trotman happened to call at the Queen's-head alehouſe in Bandy-leg walk, when the latter was perfectly ſober, but the former in a ſtate of intoxication. Having called for ſome rum and water, Coleman was ſtirring it with a ſpoon, when a ſtranger aſked him what he had done with the pig; meaning a pig that had been lately ſtolen in the neighbourhood. Coleman, unconſcious of guilt, and conceiving himſelf affronted by ſuch an impertinent queſtion, ſaid "D—n the pig, what is it to me?"

The other, who ſeems to have had an intention to enſnare him, aſked him if he did not know Kennington lane? Coleman anſwered that he did, and added "D—n ye, what of that?" The other then aſked him if he knew the woman that had been ſo cruelly treated in Kennington lane? Coleman replied yes, and again ſaid "D—n ye, what of "that?" The other man aſked, "Was not you "one of the parties concerned in that affair?" Coleman, who, as we have ſaid, was intoxicated, and had no ſuſpicion of deſign, replied, "If I had, "you dog, what then?" and threw at him the ſpoon with which he was ſtirring the liquor. A

violent quarrel enſued; but at length Coleman went away with Trotman.

On the following day Coleman calling at the Queen's-head abovementioned, the landlord informed him how imprudently he had acted the preceding day. Coleman, who had been too drunk to remember what paſſed, aſked if he had offended any perſon; on which the landlord informed him of what had happened: but the other, ſtill conſcious of his innocence, paid no regard to what he ſaid.

On the 29th of Auguſt Daniel Trotman and another man went before Mr. Clarke, a magiſtrate in the Borough, and charged Coleman on ſuſpicion of having violently aſſaulted, and cruelly treated, Sarah Green, in the Parſonage-walk, near Newington church, in Surry.

The magiſtrate, who does not ſeem to have ſuppoſed that Coleman was guilty, ſent for him, and hired a man to attend him to the hoſpital where the wounded woman lay; and a perſon pointing out Coleman, aſked if he was one of the perſons who had uſed her ſo cruelly. She ſaid, ſhe believed he was: but as ſhe declined to ſwear poſitively to his having any concern in the affair, juſtice Clarke admitted him to bail.

Some time afterwards Coleman was again taken before the magiſtrate, when nothing poſitive being ſworn againſt him, the juſtice would have abſolutely diſcharged him: but Mr. Wynne, the maſter of the injured girl, requeſting that he might once more be taken to ſee her, a time was fixed for that purpoſe, and the juſtice took Coleman's word for his appearance.

The accuſed party came punctually to his time, bringing with him the landlord of an alehouſe where

Sarah

Sarah Green had drunk, on the night of the affair, with the three men who really injured her: and this publican, and other people, declared on oath that Coleman was not one of the parties.

On the following day juſtice Clarke went to the hoſpital, to take the examination of the woman on oath. Having aſked her if Coleman was one of the men who had injured her, ſhe ſaid ſhe could not tell, as it was dark at the time; but Coleman being called in, an oath was adminiſtered to her, when ſhe ſwore that he was one of the three men that abuſed her.

Notwithſtanding this oath, the juſtice, who thought the poor girl not in her right ſenſes, and was convinced in his own mind of the innocence of Coleman, permitted him to depart, on his promiſe of bringing bail the following day to anſwer the complaint at the next aſſizes for Surry; and he brought his bail and gave ſecurity accordingly.

Sarah Green dying in the hoſpital, the coroner's jury ſat to enquire into the cauſe of her death; and having found a verdict of Wilful Murder againſt Richard Coleman, and two perſons then unknown, a warrant was iſſued to take Coleman into cuſtody.

Though this man was conſcious of his innocence, yet ſuch were his terrors at the idea of going to priſon on ſuch a charge, that he abſconded, and ſecreted himſelf at Pinner, near Harrow on the Hill.

King George the ſecond being then at Hanover, a proclamation was iſſued by the Lords of the Regency, offering a reward of 50 £. for the apprehenſion of the ſuppoſed offender; and to this the pariſh of St. Saviour, Southwark, added a reward of 20 £.

Coleman read the advertiſement for his apprehenſion in the Gazette, but was ſtill ſo thoughtleſs

as

as to conceal himſelf; though perhaps an immediate ſurrender would have been deemed the ſtrongeſt teſtimony of his innocence; however, to aſſert his innocence, he cauſed the following advertiſement to be printed in the news-paper.

" I Richard Coleman, ſeeing myſelf advertiſed " in the Gazette, as abſconding on account of the " murder of Sarah Green, knowing myſelf not any " way culpable, do aſſert that I have not abſcon- " ded from juſtice; but will willingly and readily " appear at the next aſſizes, knowing that my inno- " cence will acquit me."

Strict ſearch being made after him, he was apprehended at Pinner, abovementioned on the 22d of November, and lodged in Newgate, whence he was removed to the New Gaol, Southwark, till the time of the aſſizes at Kingſton in Surry; when his conviction aroſe principally from the evidence of Trotman, and the declaration of the dying woman.

Some perſons poſitively ſwore that he was in another place at the time the fact was committed; but their evidence was not credited by the jury: though it will be ſeen, in a ſubſequent part of this work, that it would have been happy if a proper attention had been paid to it.

After conviction Coleman behaved like one who was poſſeſſed of conſcious innocence, and who had no fear of death for a crime which he had not committed.

He was attended at the place of execution by the Rev. Mr. Wilſon, to whom he delivered a paper, in which he declared, in the moſt ſolemn and explicit manner, that he was altogether innocent of the crime alledged againſt him, He died with great reſignation; lamenting only the diſtreſs in which he ſhould leave a wife and two children.

This

This unhappy victim to erroneous evidence ſuffered the ſentence of the law at Kennington common on the 12th of April, 1749.

There is ſomething exceedingly ſhocking in the fate of this man. He was convicted, in a great meaſure, on the evidence of the poor injured woman, whoſe excruciating pains of body may well be ſuppoſed to have impaired the faculties of her mind. Her doubt reſpecting him, and her refuſing to ſwear to him when ſhe firſt ſaw him in the hoſpital, ought in a great degree to have deſtroyed the force of her evidence, when the aggravated pains of the body had ſtill more weakened her intellects.

Juſtices of the peace in general, we are ſorry to ſay it, are but too fond of finding out evidence againſt priſoners: and it is to be feared that to their officious diligence it is owing that many an innocent man has loſt his life. Mr. Clarke was a ſtriking exception to this general rule. His doubt of the truth of the woman's evidence added to his prior confidence of Mr. Coleman's innocence.

However juſtices may chuſe to act in caſes of this nature, jurymen ſhould conſider themſelves as they really are, the JUDGES of the FACT, and never convict on evidence merely circumſtantial, except when the circumſtances are ſo numerous in themſelves, ſo evidently depending on each other, and ſupported by the teſtimony of ſuch a number of credible witneſſes, as to produce evidence at leaſt as full as what would ariſe from the poſitive oath of any ſingle perſon; and there are inſtances where this collateral evidence may be even ſtronger; but this will be beſt explained by an example.

Suppoſe a gentleman be ſtopped on the highway, and robbed in the duſk of the evening by a highwayman, to whoſe face he cannot poſitively ſwear:

—ſuppoſe

— ſuppoſe at the moment the robbery is committed two perſons ride up, and ſeeing the highwayman quitting the carriage of the perſon robbed, who gives an alarm, they purſue and take him; and find on him the watch, ſome notes, remarkable pieces of money, or other matters, to which the injured party can poſitively ſwear. In this caſe, if the highwayman was never out of ſight, a jury may ſafely convict on the evidence, provided the character of the perſon robbed and the witneſſes be ſuch as to entitle them to credit: for the proof reſulting from this combined evidence is more ample than what could ariſe from the ſimple oath of the party injured, if he had not ſeen the robber till a future day, and then ſworn to his guilt: for it is very poſſible that men who are terrified may be miſtaken in the countenances of others, whom they have but imperfectly ſeen before, and indeed this has often happened, and ſometimes fatally.

Upon the whole, this caſe of Coleman is one of thoſe myſteries of Providence which will be fully brought to light only in a future ſtate of exiſtence, when all hidden things will be made plain, and we ſhall adore that wonderful wiſdom of God which is now altogether above our finite comprehenſion!

Particulars reſpecting THOMAS KINGSMILL, WILLIAM FAIRALL, and RICHARD PERIN who were hanged for breaking open the Cuſtom-houſe at Poole.

IT may not be improper to premiſe that theſe men were a part of that infamous gang of ſmugglers, ſeveral of whom murdered Galley and Chater, the Cuſtom-houſe officers, as recorded in the pre-

ceding pages of this work. Theſe villains were ſo hardened and daring in their villanies, that the honeſt inhabitants on and near the coaſts of Hampſhire, Kent, and Suſſex, lived in perpetual apprehenſion.

Before we relate the particulars of the fact for which they ſuffered, we will give ſuch an account of the parties themſelves as we have been able to procnre.

KINGSMILL was a native of Goodhurſt in Kent, and had paſſed ſome part of his life as a huſbandman; but having aſſociated with the ſmugglers, he made no ſcruple of entering into the moſt hazardous enterprizes; and became ſo diſtinguiſhed for his courageous, or rather ferocious diſpoſition, that he was choſen captain of the gang; an honour of which he was ſo proud, that he ſought every opportunity of exhibiting ſpecimens of his courage, and put himſelf foremoſt in every ſervice of danger.

FAIRALL was a native of Horſendown-green in Kent, and the ſon of poor parents, who were unable either to educate him, or to give him any regular employment by which he might obtain a livelihood. He began to aſſociate with the ſmugglers while quite a boy, and was frequently employed by them to hold their horſes; and when he grew up to man's eſtate, he was admitted as one of the fraternity. He was ſo remarkable for his brutal courage, that it was not thought ſafe to offend him.

Having been taken into cuſtody, and lodged in the New Goal Southwark, he made his eſcape from thence, and vowed vengeance againſt the magiſtrate who had granted the warrant for his apprehenſion; and in conſequence hereof, he and Kingſmill, and others of the gang, laid wait for the gentleman one morning when he left his houſe; but not meeting with him then, they hid themſelves under his Park-

wall, till his uſual time of returning in the evening; but it happened that, on his return, he heard the voices of men: and the night being very dark, he turned his horſe and went into his houſe by a private door, by which he avoided the dangerous ſnare that was laid for him.

PERIN was a native of Chicheſter in Suſſex. Having ſerved his time to a carpenter, he practiſed ſome years as a maſter, and was ſucceſsful in trade; but a ſtroke of the palſy depriving him of the uſe of his right hand, he became connected with the ſmugglers, on whoſe behalf he uſed to ſail to the coaſt of France and purchaſe goods, which he brought to England; and in this capacity he proved very ſerviceable to the gang.

It is evident that theſe men muſt have greatly injured the revenue, and the fair trader; for they had a number of warehouſes in different parts of Suſſex, for the concealment of their goods; and kept not leſs than fifty horſes, ſome of which they ſent loaded to London, and others to the fairs round the country.

Perin being in France in the year 1747, bought a large quantity of goods, which he loaded on board a cutter, with a view to run them on the coaſt of Suſſex: but, as ſeveral ſmuggling veſſels were expected at this juncture, captain Johnſon, who commanded a cutter in the government's ſervice, received orders to ſail in ſearch of them.

In conſequence hereof he ſailed from Poole, and took the ſmuggling cutter above mentioned on the following day; but Perin and his accomplices eſcaped, by taking to their boat. Captain Johnſon found the cargo to conſiſt of brandy and tea to a very large amount, which he carried ſafe into the harbour of Poole.

Soon

Soon after this tranſaction, which happened in the month of September, the whole body of ſmugglers aſſembled in Charlton-park, to conſult if there was any poſſibility of recovering the goods of which they had thus been deprived. After many ſchemes had been propoſed and rejected, Perin recommended that they ſhould go in a body, armed, and break open the Cuſtom-houſe at Poole; and this propoſal being acceded to, a paper was drawn up, by way of bond, that they ſhould ſupport each other; and this was ſigned by all the parties.

This agreement, which was filled with dreadful curſes on each other, in caſe of failure to execute it, was ſigned on the ſixth of October; and having provided themſelves with ſwords and fire-arms, they met on the following day; and having concealed themſelves in a wood till the evening, they proceeded towards Poole, where they arrived about eleven at night.

As ſoon as they got thither, they ſent Willis and Stringer, two of the gang, to obſerve if there were any perſons watching near the Cuſtom-houſe. Willis ſoon came back, and informed them that he thought it would not be ſafe to make the attempt, as a ſloop of war lay oppoſite the quay, ſo that ſhe could point her guns againſt the door of the Cuſtom-houſe. On this the body of the ſmugglers were for deſiſting from the enterprize: when Kingſmill and Fairall addreſſed them, ſaying, "If "you will not do it, we will do it ourſelves;" but theſe words were no ſooner ſpoken, than Stringer came back, and told them that it would be impoſſible for the ſloop to bring her guns to bear, on account of the ebb-tide.

Animated by this intelligence, they rode to the ſea-coaſt, where Perin and another of the gang

took care of their horſes, while the main body of them went back to the Cuſtom-houſe, in their way to which meeting with a boy, they took him with them, to prevent his alarming the inhabitants.

Having forced the door open with hatchets and other inſtruments, they carried off the ſmuggled goods, with which they loaded their horſes; and, travelling all night, ſtopped in the morning at a place named Fording's-bridge.

The number of ſmugglers were thirty, and their horſes thirty-one. Continuing their journey to a place named Brook, they divided the booty into equal ſhares, and then departed, each to his own houſe.

This daring tranſaction being repreſented to the ſecretaries of ſtate, king George the ſecond gave orders for iſſuing a proclamation, with a reward for the apprehenſion of the offenders: yet it was a conſiderable time before any of them were taken into cuſtody; ſome of them being concerned in the murder of Chater aud Galley, of which we have already given an account, and others eſcaping to France.

At length two of the ſmugglers, who had been evidences againſt thoſe hanged at Chicheſter, gave intelligence of the uſual place of meeting of the others; in conſequence of which, Fairall, Kingſmill, Perin, and another, named Glover, were taken into cuſtody, and conducted to Newgate.

When they were brought to trial, the evidences, whoſe names were Raiſe and Steel, confirmed the particulars which we have above recited; in conſequence of which, the priſoners, who could not diſprove the teſtimony, were capitally convicted, and received ſentence of death: but the jury recommended Glover as an object of the royal clemency.

Fairall

Fairall behaved moſt inſolently on his trial; and threatened one of the witneſſes ſworn againſt him. After conviction Glover exhibited every proof of penitence: but the reſt were totally hardened in their guilt; and inſiſted that they had not been guilty of any robbery, becauſe they only took goods that had once belonged to them.

Orders were given that Fairall and Kingſmill ſhould be hung in chains; but it was permitted that the body of Perin ſhould be delivered to his friends: and the latter lamenting the fate of his aſſociates, Fairall ſaid, "We ſhall be hanging up in the "ſweet air, when you are rotting in your grave:" ſo hardened and unfeeling was the heart of this man.

Their friends being permitted to ſee them on the night before they ſuffered, a pardon was brought for Glover while they were in diſcourſe together; and a few days afterwards he obtained his liberty. Fairall kept ſmoaking with his acquaintance, till he was ordered by the keeper to retire to his cell; a circumſtance that much enraged him; on which he exclaimed "Why in ſuch a hurry? cannot you let "me ſtay a little longer with my friends?—I ſhall "not be able to drink with them to morrow night."

On the following day Perin was carried to the place of execution in a mourning coach, as were the two others in a cart, with a guard of horſe and foot guards. The behaviour of Fairall and Kingſmill was remarkably undaunted; but all of them joined in devotion with the ordinary of Newgate, when they came to the fatal tree.

Theſe malefactors ſuffered at Tyburn on the 26th of April, 1749; and the bodies of Kingſmill and Fairall were hung in chains in the county of Kent.

It was a ſtrange error in the conduct of theſe men to plead that they had not been guilty of robbery, becauſe the goods had once been their own. If they had reflected for a moment, they would have conſidered, that when theſe goods were firſt taken from them, they had been obtained in an illicit manner, contrary to the expreſs declaration of the laws of the land.

It is to be lamented that our laws againſt ſmugglers are not much more ſevere. The man who at once defrauds the revenue, and injures the fair trader, is certainly full as culpable as he that takes a purſe on the highway; and it is to be hoped that the time will come when the puniſhment will be at leaſt equal.

A law to make it felony to receive ſmuggled goods, knowing them to be ſuch, would do honour to the legiſlature; but till ſuch a law paſſes, it behoves every honeſt houſe-keeper to diſcourage this unlawful trade, by ſteadily refuſing ever to give encouragement to thoſe who offer them cheap bargains of ſmuggled articles; in which, it is ten to one but they are defrauded.

The behaviour of Kingſmill and Fairall, hardened as they were in guilt, affords a ſhocking proof how naturally the commiſſion of one crime leads to that of another; and ſhould inſpire us devoutly to pray, that we may not be led into temptation; but be ſupported in all good reſolutions, which will naturally tend to promote our happineſs here and hereafter.

A par-

A particular account of the caſe of JOHN MILLS, who was hanged for Murder.

THIS malefactor, whoſe crimes were more atrocious than language can expreſs, was the ſon of Richard Mills, one of the ſmugglers executed for the murder of Chater and Galley, in which murder he was likewiſe concerned, and alſo in the breaking open the cuſtom-houſe at Poole.

Mills and ſome aſſociates travelling over Hindheath, ſaw the judges on their road to Chicheſter, to try the murderers of Chater and Galley; on which young Mills propoſed to rob them; but the other parties refuſed to have any concern in ſuch an affair.

Soon after his father and his accomplices were hanged, Mills thought of going to Briſtol, with a view of embarking for France; and having hinted his intentions to ſome others, they reſolved to accompany him; and ſtopping at a houſe on the road, they met with one Richard Hawkins, whom they aſked to go with them; but the poor fellow heſitating, they put him on horſeback behind Mills, and carried him to the Dog and Partridge on Slendon Common, which was kept by John Reynolds.

They had not been long in the houſe when complaint was made that two bags of tea had been ſtolen, and Hawkins was charged with the robbery. He ſteadily denied any knowledge of the affair: but this not ſatisfying the villains, they obliged him to pull off his cloaths; and having likewiſe ſtripped themſelves, they began to whip him with the moſt unrelenting barbarity; and Curtis, one of the gang, ſaid he did know of the robbery, and if he

he would not confeſs, he would whip him till he did; for he had whipped many a rogue, and waſhed his hands in his blood.

Theſe blood-thirſty villains continued whipping the poor wretch till their breath was almoſt exhauſted; while he begged them to ſpare his life, on account of his wife and child. Hawkins drawing up his legs, to defend himſelf in ſome meaſure from their blows, they kicked him on the groin in a manner too ſhocking to be deſcribed; continually aſking him what was become of the tea. At length the unfortunate man mentioned ſomething of his father and brother; on which Mills and one Curtis ſaid they would go and fetch them: but Hawkins expired ſoon after they had left the houſe.

Rowland, one of the accomplices, now locked the door; and putting the key in his pocket, he and Thomas Winter (who was afterwards admitted evidence) went out to meet Curtis and Mills, whom they ſaw riding up a lane leading from an adjacent village, having each a man behind him. Winter deſiring to ſpeak with his companions, the other men ſtood at a diſtance, while he aſked Curtis what he meant to do with them; and he ſaid, to confront them with Hawkins.

Winter now ſaid that Hawkins was dead, and begged that no more miſchief might be done; but Curtis replied, "By G— we will go through it "now:" but at length they permitted them to go home; ſaying that when they were wanted they ſhould be ſent for.

The murderers now coming back to the public-houſe, Reynolds ſaid, "You have ruined me;" but Curtis replied that he would make him amends. Having conſulted how they ſhould diſpoſe of the body, it was propoſed to throw it into a well in an adjacent

adjacent park: but this being objected to, they carried it twelve miles, and having tied ſtones to it, in order to ſink it, they threw it into a pond in Parham-park, belonging to ſir Cecil Biſhop; and in this place it lay more than two months before it was diſcovered.

This horrid and unprovoked murder gave riſe to a royal proclamation, in which a pardon was offered to any perſons, even outlawed ſmugglers, except thoſe who had been guilty of murder, or concerned in breaking open the cuſtom-houſe at Poole, on the condition of diſcovering the perſons who had murdered Hawkins, particularly Mills, who was charged with having had a concern in this horrid tranſaction.

Hereupon William Pring, an outlawed ſmuggler, who had not had any ſhare in either of the crimes excepted in the proclamation, went to the ſecretary of ſtate, and informed him that he would find Mills, if he could be aſcertained of his own pardon; and added, that he believed he was either at Bath or Briſtol.

Being aſſured that he need not doubt of the pardon, he ſet out for Briſtol, where he found Mills, and with him Thomas and Lawrence Kemp, brothers, the former of whom had broke out of Newgate, and the other was outlawed by proclamation. Having conſulted on their deſperate circumſtances, Pring offered them a retreat at his houſe near Beckenham in Kent, whence they might make excurſions, and commit robberies on the highway.

Pleaſed with this propoſal, they ſet out with Pring, and arrived in ſafety at his houſe, where they had not been long before he pretended that his horſe being an indifferent one, and theirs remarkably good, he would go and procure another,

and then they would proceed on their intended expeditions.

Thus ſaying, he ſet out, and they agreed to wait for his return; but inſtead of going to procure a horſe, he went to the houſe of Mr. Rackſter, an officer of the exciſe at Horſham, who taking with him ſeven or eight armed men, went to Beckenham at night, where they found Mills and the two brothers Kemp juſt going to ſupper on a breaſt of veal. They immediately ſecured the brothers, by tying their arms: but Mills, making reſiſtance, was cut with a hanger before he would ſubmit.

The offenders being taken, were conducted to the county gaol for Suſſex, and, being ſecured till the aſſizes, were removed to Eaſt-Grinſtead, where the brothers Kemp were tried for highway robberies, convicted, ſentenced, and executed.

Mills being tried for the murder of Hawkins, was capitally convicted, and received ſentence of death, and to be hung in chains near the place where the murder was committed.

After conviction he mentioned ſeveral robberies in which he had been concerned, but refuſed to tell the names of any of his accomplices; declaring that he thought he ſhould merit damnation, if he made any diſcoveries by means of which any of his companions might be apprehended and convicted.

The country being at that time filled with ſmugglers, a reſcue was feared; wherefore he was conducted to the place of execution by a guard of ſoldiers; and when there prayed with a clergyman, confeſſed that he had led a bad life, acknowledged the murder of Hawkins, deſired that all young people would take warning by his untimely end, humbly implored the forgiveneſs of God, and profeſſed to die in charity with all mankind.

He

He was executed on Slendon Common on the 12th of Auguſt, 1749, and afterwards hung in chains near the ſame ſpot.

From this ſtory may be learnt how naturally the commiſſion of ſmall crimes leads to that of greater. Smugglers having acquired habits of diſhoneſty, and engaged in acts of cruelty, proceed without remorſe to the perpetration of murder, till their crimes end in an ignominious death.

Young people cannot be too cautious in the choice of their company: their whole fate is frequently determined by the outſet in life; and many an one is rendered wretched by a neglect of chuſing virtuous companions in his early days.

It is a more laborious taſk to be diligent in wickedneſs than in virtue; and, while it produces nothing but uneaſineſs in this life, promiſes nothing but wretchedneſs in the next.

May the goodneſs of God prevent the readers of this work from falling into ſuch deplorable circumſtances, as may render them objects of contempt to their fellow-creatures, and unfit for the reception of the divine mercy!

Narrative of the caſes of HUGH DAWSON and JOHN GAMMELL, who were hanged for a Robbery.

DAWSON was the ſon of a bookſeller at Londonderry in Ireland, who ſent him to ſea in a trading veſſel, the property of one of his relations. After the firſt voyage, he remained ſome time at home, and did not ſeem to entertain any

farther thoughts of going to ſea; but falling in love with a young woman in the neighbourhood, ſhe promiſed him marriage, but adviſed him to follow his former occupation ſome time longer.

In conſequence of this advice he went again to ſea, and on his return from each voyage viſited his favourite girl: but at length it was diſcovered by her parents that ſhe was pregnant by her lover. Alarmed by this circumſtance, they propoſed to Dawſon's father to give her a fortune proportioned to what they would beſtow on their ſon; but this the old man obſtinately refuſed, though the ſon earneſtly entreated him to accede to the propoſal.

Hereupon young Dawſon left his parents, ſwore he would never again return home, and went once more to ſea. Having made ſome voyages, the veſſel in which he ſailed put into the harbour of Sandwich; on which Dawſon quitted a ſea-faring life, and married a girl of fortune, who bore him two children, which were left to the care of her relations at her death, which happened ſix years after the marriage.

On this event Dawſon went again to ſea, and was in ſeveral naval engagements. When his ſhip was paid off he went to Briſtol, where he was arreſted for a debt he had contracted. At this period he heard of the death of his father, and that his mother's affection for him was in no degree diminiſhed; on which he wrote her an account of his ſituation; and ſhe ſent him fifty pounds, which relieved him from his embarraſſments.

Having procured his liberty, he went to London, and marrying the widow of a ſeaman, who poſſeſſed ſome money, they lived in harmony a conſiderable time, till making a connexion with diſſolute companions,

panions, he commenced the practices which led to his ruin.

Gammell, who had been a ſhip-mate with Dawſon, was one of theſe companions, and being now out of employment, adviſed him to go on the highway. He heſitated for ſome time: but having drank freely, his reſolution failed him, and he agreed to the fatal propoſal.

Theſe accomplices dreſſed themſelves as ſailors, and concealing bludgeons under their jackets, knocked down the perſons they intended to rob, and ſtripped them of their effects.

The robbery which coſt them their lives was committed near New-croſs turnpike, on a gentleman named Outridge, from whom they took his money and watch, and treated him with great barbarity. Being purſued by ſome people whom Mr. Outridge informed of the robbery, Dawſon was overtaken and confined; and having given information where Gammell lodged, he likewiſe was apprehended; and both of them being conveyed to the New Gaol, Southwark, they mutually recriminated on each other.

On the approach of the aſſizes for Surry, the priſoners were carried to Croydon, where they were both tried and capitally convicted. After paſſing ſentence, Dawſon was viſited by a Roman catholic prieſt, who intimated that he had heard he was of the Romiſh religion: but the other ſaid he would die in the proteſtant faith, in which he had been educated: but notwithſtanding this declaration, and his regular attendance on the forms of the proteſtant mode, there was reaſon to conclude that he was a catholic, from a paper that was found in his cell after his death.

On

On the night preceding the execution, the behaviour of Dawſon evidenced the diſtraction of his mind. He was viſited by his wife, who had ſitten ſome time with him, when the turnkey came, and intimated that he muſt retire; on which he refuſed to go, and knocked the fellow down; but others of the keepers coming, he was ſecured. His wife would now have taken a final leave of him; and he ſaid if ſhe did not depart he would murder her.

As the keepers were conducting him through the court-yard to his cell, he called to the other priſoners, ſaying, "Hollo! my boys! Dawſon is "to be hanged to-morrow."

The priſoners were conveyed to the place of execution in the ſame cart; and when there Dawſon expreſſed his hope of ſalvation through the merits of Jeſus Chriſt, and declared he died in charity with all men. Gammell addreſſed the ſurrounding multitude, particularly hoping that his brother-ſeamen would avoid the commiſſion of ſuch crimes as led to his deplorable end. He hoped forgiveneſs from all whom he had injured, and acknowledged that he fell a victim to the equity of the laws.

Theſe men were hanged at Kennington Common on the 22d of Auguſt, 1749.

On conſidering this ſtory, it may be proper to reprobate the conduct of Dawſon's father, who would not contribute what he was able, to impower him to do juſtice to a poor girl whom he had injured, whom he ſincerely loved, who indiſputably loved him, and who would probably have made him a good wife, and ſaved him from the ignominious fate which was the conſequence of his future crimes.

Proper

Proper as it may be to expatiate on the duty of children to parents, it cannot be leſs proper to remark on that duty which parents owe to children. Theſe obligations are indeed reciprocal; and if a child is bound to pay obedience to the father who protects and educates him, the father is not leſs bound to treat with kindneſs and humanity the child who owes his being to him.

Happy are thoſe families where fathers and ſons, where mothers and daughters, live in mutual love and confidence, in a conſtant regard and unabating eſteem for each other. It is a life like this which makes HOME at all times the moſt agreeable of places, and conſtitutes a little heaven upon earth!

Particulars reſpecting THOMAS NEALE, and WILLIAM BOWEN, who were hanged for a Robbery on the Highway.

THOMAS NEALE was a native of Denbigh in North Wales, and trained to the buſineſs of huſbandry; but quitting the country while young, he entered on board a man of war; and ſoon became ſo diſtinguiſhed by that kind of brutal bravery which is too often diſtinguiſhed by the name of courage, that, when it was neceſſary to employ preſs-gangs, he was frequently put at their head, in which ſtation he gave ſuch proofs of an unrelenting diſpoſition, as ſeemed fully to juſtify the choice that had been made *.

* The employment of preſs-gangs has been pleaded for as neceſſary; but it is inconſiſtent with the rights of a free people, as well as the common laws of humanity. In 1777 an honourable member of the houſe of commons propoſed a plan for manning the navy without having recourſe to this cruel practice: and it is to be hoped ſome ſuch plan will be adopted.

The

The proclamation of peace occaſioning the diſcharge of many ſeamen, Neale was paid off, and bringing his wages to London, he ſoon waſted his money in the moſt diſſipated manner, and in the worſt of company; and then had recourſe to the dangerous practices of a footpad-robber.

On a particular occaſion he ſtole a tankard from an inn in Hertfordſhire, for which he was apprehended, and lodged in the county gaol, and being tried at the next aſſizes, was capitally convicted; but obtained a pardon (on the condition of tranſporting himſelf for ſeven years) through the intereſt of the late duke of Cumberland.

Having given bail thus to tranſport himſelf, he entertained no thought of fulfilling the contract; but immediately aſſociating with Bowen and other villains, they committed a variety of robberies in the adjacencies of London.

William Bowen was a native of Londonderry, in Ireland. His parents, who kept an inn, and lived reſpectably, propoſed that he ſhould ſucceed them in their buſineſs; but an attachment to bad company led him aſtray from the paths of duty.

His father dying juſt before he came of age, left him the inn, on the condition of his ſupporting his mother, a brother, and two young ſiſters: but the young man, deaf to every prudent conſideration, aſſociated with people whoſe circumſtances were much ſuperior to his own, to the neglect of that buſineſs which would have ſupported the family.

Aware of the decay of his trade, and the conſequent ruin that ſtared him in the face, he came over to London with all the caſh he could ſecure, and fell into company with people who aſſiſted him to ſpend his money; and when that was gone, he entered on board a ſhip as a common ſailor.

The ſeamen having received their wages, Bowen got into company with his old aſſociates and ſome women of ill-fame, with whom he ſpent to the laſt ſhilling, and then had recourſe, for ſupport, to the committing robberies in the neighbourhood of London, particularly near Stepney and Mile-End.

One of Bowen's companions being apprehended for picking pockets, he and others joined to reſcue him, as the peace-officers were conveying him to Newgate in a coach.

The public being alarmed by this daring reſcue, Bowen did not think it ſafe to ſtay in London; and having heard that his brother, then a ſeaman, was at Liverpool, went thither in ſearch of him: but, on his arrival, he learnt that having received a large ſum as prize-money, he was ſailed to ſee his friends in Ireland.

Bowen immediately wrote to Londonderry; but not having a letter in return, he came to the metropolis in the moſt diſtreſſed circumſtances; when going to a houſe where he had formerly lodged, he was informed that Neale had been to enquire for him; and on the following day Neale came to ſee him, in company with a man named Vincent.

After drinking together, Neale ſaid to Bowen, "Come and take a ride with me." Bowen ſaid he had no money; but the other told him that would ſoon be procured. On this Neale went out to borrow him a pair of boots; while Bowen went with Vincent to his lodgings, where the latter gave him a hanger and a pair of piſtols, which Bowen concealed under a great coat; and then all the parties met at an alehouſe in Southwark, whence they went to an inn, and hired horſes, on the pretence of going to Graveſend; inſtead of which they went

towards Kingſton, where Vincent had a relation who belonged to the Oxford Blues.

In their way they purchaſed a whip for Bowen, and loaded their piſtols. On their arrival at Kingſton, they went to a public-houſe, and ſending for Vincent's kinſman, they all dined together, and drank themſelves into a ſtate of perfect intoxication.

Having paid their reckoning, they mounted their horſes, determined on the commiſſion of robbery; and meeting a gentleman named Ryley, Bowen pulled him from his horſe, and in the ſame inſtant quitted his own. Mr. Ryley ran off; but Bowen following him, threw him down, and kneeling on his breaſt, the other entreated that he would not hurt him. Bowen threatened his inſtant deſtruction if he did not quietly ſubmit, and having robbed him of his watch and money, bade him run after his horſe, which had quitted the place on Neale's whipping him; and in the interim Vincent watched, leſt any perſon ſhould come up to interrupt them.

The highwaymen now rode towards London, and when they came near Wandſworth determined to go to Fulham, and thence to town by the way of Hyde-park Corner. Having divided the booty (except a thirty-ſix ſhilling-piece, which Bowen ſecreted) at the Greyhound inn near Piccadilly, they ſupped and ſlept at that houſe.

In the morning they told the landlord that they wanted to go towards Highgate; but were not well acquainted with the road. As they had been good cuſtomers, the landlord begged to treat them with half a pint of rum, and then went a little way with them, to ſhew them the neareſt road.

Having arrived at Highgate, they drank at that place, and then determined to proceed to Barnet,

at

at which place they put up their horſes, and called for rum and water, of which they ſwallowed ſuch quantities, that Vincent and Bowen fell faſt aſleep.

In the mean time Neale endeavoured to ſecrete a ſilver pint mug; but being detected in the attempt, he was taken before a magiſtrate, and loaded piſtols being found on him, orders were given that his companions ſhould likewiſe be taken into cuſtody; and all of them were lodged in the county-gaol.

At the next aſſizes an order was made for their diſcharge (as nothing appeared againſt them), on their giving ſecurity for their good behaviour. For this purpoſe they wrote to London to procure bail: but Mr. Ryley hearing that three men of doubtful character were in the gaol of Hertford, went thither, and immediately knew that they were the parties by whom he had been robbed.

Hereupon a detainer was lodged againſt them, and they were removed for trial at the Surry aſſizes, previous to the holding of which Vincent was admitted an evidence for the crown. His teſtimony corroborating that of Mr. Ryley, Neale and Bowen were found guilty, and ſentenced to die.

Being lodged in the New Goal, Southwark, Bowen was taken ill, and continued ſo till the time of his execution. He behaved with ſome degree of reſignation to his fate; but was violent in his exclamations againſt Vincent, on account of his turning evidence.

Neale evinced no concern on account of his unhappy ſituation: but behaved in a manner more hardened than language can expreſs. At the place of execution he paid no regard to the devotions, but laughed at the populace while he played with the rope which was to put a period to his life. After the cap was drawn over his face, he put it

up again, and addreſſed the people in the following ſhocking terms: "I ſhall very ſoon ſee my "lord Balmerino. He was a very good friend of "mine; ſo that is what I had to ſay, and damn "you all together."—He then drew the cap over his eyes, and launched into eternity.

Theſe men were hanged at Kennington Common on the 22d of Auguſt, 1749.

Without adverting to the crime for which theſe men ſuffered, it is impoſſible to diſmiſs this ſtory, and not take notice of the horrid and unexampled manner in which Neale quitted the world. Shocking as the practice of ſwearing is at all times, a curſe denounced on our neighbour at the moment of quitting life, has ſomething in it too dreadful even to be thought of. It is but chriſtian charity to hope that this man was in a ſtate of phrenzy when he pronounced his laſt words: for what, otherwiſe, can we think of the fate of the wretch who could thus quit this mortal being? The moſt hardened are generally ſerious on ſo dreadful an occaſion; and indeed it would be doubly dreadful if they were not.

We know that the Divine Author of our being is a GOD of infinite MERCY; but we ſhould remember alſo that he is a GOD of JUSTICE!

Narrative of the Caſe of BOSAVERN PENLEZ, who was executed for having a Concern in a Riot.

THIS unhappy youth (for he can hardly be deemed a malefactor) was the ſon of a native of the iſland of Jerſey, who having been educated

at

at Oxford, entered into orders, and having obtained a ſmall church-preferment, ſettled near Exeter, where his unfortunate ſon was born.

His father dying while he was young, he was placed as an apprentice to a barber and perukemaker at Exeter by the ſtewards of the ſons of the clergy. Having ſerved his apprenticeſhip with the higheſt reputation for good character and ſobriety, he came to London, and lived in ſeveral places with the utmoſt credit, till a circumſtance equally unpremeditated and unforeſeen occaſioned his deſtruction.

On Saturday the 1ſt of July, 1749, three ſeamen belonging to the Grafton man-of-war, having called at a houſe of ill-fame in the Strand, were there robbed of their watches, a bank-note value 20*l.* four moidores, and thirty guineas.

The ſeamen demanded a reparation of their loſs; inſtead of which ſome bullies belonging to the houſe puſhed them from the door, whereupon they went away, denouncing vengeance; and having collected a number of their companions in the neighbourhood of Wapping, they returned at night, broke open the houſe, turned the women almoſt naked into the ſtreet, ripped up the beds, threw the feathers out of the window, broke the furniture in pieces, and made a bonfire of it.

Having proceeded to behave in a ſimilar manner at another houſe of ill-fame, a party of the guards was ſent for, and the mob, for the preſent, diſperſed.

On the following day, being Sunday, immenſe numbers of people crouded to ſee the ruins of the baudy-houſes; and on this day Boſavern Penlez went to the houſe of Mr. Pearce in Wych-ſtreet, where he had left ſome cloaths; and when he had

cleaned himſelf, he viſited an acquaintance named Taylor, with whom he drank at a public-houſe, dined, and ſpent the afternoon with him.

In the evening Penlez walked in Somerſet gardens, and at eight o'clock went back to his friend Taylor, who being engaged with company, Penlez declined ſtaying, and proceeded to meet an acquaintance at the Horſhoe near Temple-bar. Having drunk ſome beer with him, he was returning to his lodgings, when he unfortunately met with another acquaintance, who told him it was his birthday, and begged he would drink ſome punch with him.

This requeſt being complied with, Penlez became quite intoxicated, and in his way home found a mob at the door of the Star Tavern * near Temple-bar, endeavouring to deſtroy what the ſeamen had left undemoliſhed. Many of the people got into the houſe, and did great damage; and Penlez, with John Wilſon, and Benjamin Launder, were taken into cuſtody.

Being brought to trial at the next ſeſſions at the Old Bailey, the evidences were Peter Wood (the landlord), his wife, and one Reeves, their ſervant, who poſitively ſwore to the commiſſion of the facts alledged in the indictment.

To diſcredit their teſtimony, Mr. John Mixon, the collector of the ſcavenger's rate, depoſed, that he did not think the oath of Mr. or Mrs. Wood was to be taken; and that he would not hang a cat or a dog on their evidence. He added, that the houſe they kept was of the moſt notorious ill-fame; that the rates were paid in the name of Thompſon; that

* This houſe was kept by a fellow named Peter Wood, whoſe name will be branded with infamy, as long as this unhappy ſtory is remembered.

that Wood and his wife had been often proſecuted for keeping a diſorderly houſe; and that the neighbours were afraid to appear againſt them.

In the courſe of the trial Wood ſwore, "that "the mob amounted to about ſeven hundred peo- "ple; that eight or ten of them came into his "parlour, among whom were Wilſon and Penlez; "that they broke the partition with their ſticks, "pulled out the pieces with their hands, deſtroyed "all the furniture in the parlour, and threw it into "the ſtreet; broke down his bar, and knocked "him down on the ſtairs;" with many other circumſtances, tending to prove the riot, and that the priſoners were concerned in it.

Several perſons of reputation appeared to the characters of the priſoners; but the poſitive evidence againſt them induced the jury to convict Penlez and Wilſon; but Launder was acquitted.

The inhabitants of the pariſh of St. Clement-Dane, and many individuals made great intereſt to ſave theſe unfortunate youths, in conſequence of which Wilſon was reprieved; but Penlez was ordered for execution.

It is ſaid that the king was diſpoſed to have pardoned them both; but that lord chief juſtice Willes, before whom they were tried, declared in council that no regard would be paid to the laws, except one of them was made an example of. Our accounts inform us, that the king ſtill inclined to pardon them both; and that the chief juſtice was three times ſent for, and conſulted on this occaſion; but that he ſtill perſiſted in his former opinion*.

After

* It is a well-known fact that lord chief juſtice Willes was a ſteady aſſertor of the dignity of the law. It could not be ſuppoſed that he could have any prejudice againſt the convict; and it muſt be concluded that his opinion aroſe from a regard to the public weal.

After conviction Penlez behaved in ſuch a manner as evidently teſtified the goodneſs of his diſpoſition; and the little probability there was of ſuch a man committing a wilful, premeditated crime. It is not in language to deſcribe how much he was pitied by the public. Every one wiſhed his pardon, and wondered, without conſidering the neceſſity that there was for an example, that he was not pardoned.

When the day of execution arrived, he prepared to meet his fate with the conſciouſneſs of an innocent man, and the courage of a chriſtian. The late ſir Stephen Theodore Janſſen, chamberlain of London, was at that time ſheriff; and a number of ſoldiers waiting at Holborn bars, to conduct Penlez to Tyburn (as a reſcue was apprehended), the ſheriff politely diſmiſſed them, aſſerting that the civil power was ſufficient to carry the edicts of law into effectual execution.

This unhappy youth was executed at Tyburn, on the 18th of October, 1749.

The worthy inhabitants of St. Clements-Dane, who had been among the foremoſt in ſoliciting a pardon for Penlez, finding all their efforts ineffectual, did all poſſible honour to his memory, by burying him in a diſtinguiſhed manner, in a churchyard of their pariſh, on the evening after his unfortunate exit, which happened in the 23d year of his age.

Inſtead of making any reflections on this caſe, we ſhall inſert the following piece, which will ſufficiently declare the ſentiments of the public on this intereſting occaſion.

A MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTION intended for PENLEZ, the perſon who was executed for aſſiſting to demoliſh the bawdy-houſes in the Strand.

To

To the memory of the unfortunate
BOSAVERN PENLEZ,
Who finiſhed a life, generally well reported of,
By a violent and ignominious death.
He was the ſon of a clergyman,
To whom he was indebted for an education, which he ſo wiſely improved
As to merit the love and eſteem of all that knew him.
But actuated by principles, in themſelves truly laudable,
(When rightly directed, and properly reſtrained)
He was hurried by a ZEAL for his countrymen,
And an honeſt deteſtation of PUBLIC STEWS,
(The moſt certain BANE of YOUTH,
and the DISGRACE of GOVERNMENT)
To engage in an undertaking, which the moſt partial cannot defend,
And yet the leaſt candid muſt excuſe.
For thus indeliberately mixing with rioters, whom he accidentally met with,
He was condemned to die.
And of 400* perſons concerned in the ſame attempt, he only ſuffered,
Though neither principal, nor contriver.
How well he deſerved life, appears
From his generous contempt of it, in forbidding a reſcue of himſelf:
And what returns he would have made
TO ROYAL CLEMENCY,
Had it been extended to him, may fairly be preſumed

* Wood's teſtimony ſays *ſeven* hundred, but this muſt have been given by gueſs.

From his noble endeavours to prevent the leaſt affront to that power,
Which, though greatly importuned, refuſed to ſave him.
What was denied to his perſon, was paid to his aſhes
By the inhabitants of St. Clements-Dane,
Who ordered him to be interred among their brethren,
Defrayed the charges of his funeral,
And thought no mark of pity or reſpect too much
For this unhappy youth,
Whoſe death was occaſioned by no other fault
But a too warm indignation for their ſufferings.
By his ſad example, reader! be admoniſhed
Of the many ill conſequences that attend an intemperate zeal.
Learn hence to reſpect the laws — even the moſt oppreſſive;
And think thyſelf happy under that government
" That doth *truly* and *indifferently* adminiſter
" juſtice,
" To the puniſhment of WICKEDNESS and VICE,
" And to the maintainance of God's TRUE
" RELIGION and VIRTUE."

Particulars reſpecting BENJAMIN NEALE, who was hanged for Houſe-breaking.

THIS offender was the ſon of an apothecary at Extel in Warwickſhire, and having received a good education, was apprenticed to a capital baker at Coventry. During his apprenticeſhip his

his conduct was very reprehenſible; for he would frequently ſtay out whole nights, and return to his maſter's houſe in the morning in a ſtate of intoxication.

With ſome difficulty he ſerved to the end of his time, when ſeveral of the inhabitants of Coventry recommened it to his father to put him into buſineſs, and promiſed to deal with him; and the father enabled him to begin the world in a creditable manner. For a conſiderable time he had ſuch ſucceſs in buſineſs, that he became the principal baker in the place; and he married the daughter of one of the aldermen, with whom he received a good fortune; and would ſoon have been a rich man, if he had paid a proper attention to bis buſineſs: however, it was not long after he received his wife's fortune, before he began to give himſelf ſuch airs of conſequence as rendered him diſagreeable to his wife, and made the ſervants look on him as a perfect tyrant.

To this behaviour ſucceeded a neglect of his buſineſs, which viſibly declined, while he frequented cock-pits and horſe-races. It was in vain that his father and his wife remonſtrated on the impropriety of this conduct, and repreſented its inconſiſtence with the life of a tradeſman: he continued his courſes till his character was loſt, and he was reduced to labour as a journeyman baker.

Unable to ſubmit with decency to a fate which he had brought on himſelf, he wandered about the country, picking up a caſual and doubtful ſubſiſtence. Returning one night to Coventry, he found his mother, his wife, and child, in company. He demanded money; but they refuſing to ſupply him, he threatened to murder them, and was proceeding to put his threats in execution, when their cries

alarmed the neighbours, and prevented the perpetration of the deed: but this affair had ſuch an effect on his wife, that ſhe was ſeized with a fever, which ſoon put a period to her life.

This diſaſter did not ſeem to make any impreſſion on his mind; for travelling ſoon afterwards into Staffordſhire, he married a ſecond wife; but returning to Coventry, he privately ſold off his effects, and left the poor woman in circumſtances of great diſtreſs.

It was not long after this before he commenced highwayman, and committed a variety of robberies on different roads; and at length became a houſe-breaker, which brought him to a fatal end.

At Farnham in Surry lived a gentleman of fortune named Newton, at whoſe houſe Neale thought he might acquire a conſiderable booty; and in purſuance of his plan he broke into the houſe at four o'clock in the morning, and forcing open a bureau, he ſtole ſeveral bank notes, an Eaſt India bond, between fifty and ſixty pounds in money, ſome medals of gold, and ſeveral other valuable articles.

Mr. Newton no ſooner diſcovered the robbery than he ſent off a meſſenger, with a letter to his brother in London, requeſting that he would advertiſe the loſs, and ſtop payment of the notes.

When Neale had committed the robbery, he likewiſe proceeded towards London; and when he came to Brentford offered ſome watermen three and ſix-pence to row him to town: but this they refuſed; and Neale had no ſooner got into another boat, which was putting from the ſhore, than the meſſenger arrived at Brentford; and the watermen, having entertained a ſuſpicion of Neale, aſked the man if he was in purſuit of a thief; and he replying in the affirmative, they pointed to the boat in which Neale was ſitting.

On

On this the meſſenger hired another boat, and having overtaken him, found him wrapped up in a waterman's coat. The criminal being conducted before a magiſtrate, the ſtolen effects were found in his poſſeſſion; on which he was ordered for commitment, and conveyed to Newgate the ſame day.

When the aſſizes for Surry began, he was ſent to Guilford, were he was capitally convicted, and ſentenced to die. After conviction, his behaviour was ſuch as might have been expected from one who was too hardened to repent of crimes which he could not heſitate to commit. His conduct was ſo totally improper for his ſituation, that even the keepers of the gaol ſeemed to be ſhocked at his want of feeling, and adviſed him to amend his manners: but their advice was loſt on one of the moſt abandoned of the human race.

This malefactor ſuffered on the 12th of April, 1750.

On a retroſpect of this caſe it will appear that Neale's ignominious death aroſe principally from his diſſolute conduct while an apprentice, which riveted on him thoſe habits of vice that contaminated all his future life. His friends were reputable, his proſpects excellent, and his buſineſs was good: but a habit of idleneſs, and a love of what is falſely called pleaſure (for there can be no real pleaſure in vice), made his friends forſake him, deſtroyed his buſineſs, and overclouded all the hopeful proſpects of his life.

From his fate let the riſing generation learn the importance of diligence and ſobriety: let them learn to obey their parents and maſters, and all that are put in authority over them, as they would wiſh to be happy parents, and reputable maſters themſelves, and have the pleaſure of being obeyed in

in their turn in all their reaſonable commands: ſo may they hope to live in credit, and die with the bleſſings of all who know them.

Narrative of the extraordinary caſe of MARGARET HARVEY, who was hanged for Privately Stealing.

THIS woman was a native of the city of Dublin, deſcended from parents of reputation, who having educated her in a very decent manner, ſhe married the valet of a nobleman when ſhe was only ſixteen years of age; and her huſband ſoon afterwards procuring a lieutenant's commiſſion on board a man of war, ſailed in the ſervice of his country.

Returning after an abſence of ſix months, he became extremely jealous of his wife; but we have no account that he had then any cauſe for ſuch jealouſy. Be this as it may, he treated her with ſuch ſeverity, that ſhe left him, in apprehenſion that her life was in danger.

Some of her relations afforded her preſent ſupport; but when they began to think her troubleſome, ſhe went to her parents, who received her with the utmoſt affection: but her huſband had art enough to perſuade her father that ſhe had no good cauſe to have left him; on which the old man inſiſted on her returning to her duty as a wife.

When ſhe was again at home with him, he treated her no leſs cruelly than heretofore; and on a particular occaſion, without any previous quarrel, he cut her on the arms and head with a hanger, ſo that

that ſhe carried the marks to the grave; yet ſtill ſhe continued to love him with unabating affection.

At length, when ſhe was on a viſit, in company with ſeveral other women, and complaining of the cruelty of her huſband, they recommended her to avenge herſelf by quitting him, and putting herſelf under the protection of a gentleman, who knew her ſituation, pitied her caſe, and would be proud to become her benefactor.

Fatally for her repoſe, ſhe liſtened to this advice, and went to live with the ſtranger: on which her huſband left Dublin, and ſet out for London.

The man who had thus been the indirect means of ſeducing her from her duty, ſoon grew tired of her company, and quitted her, leaving her in circumſtances of utter diſtreſs.

In this dilemma ſhe determined to go in ſearch of her huſband, and ſolicit his forgiveneſs; and with this view ſailed for England, and travelled to London: but her enquiries after him proving fruitleſs, ſhe went into ſervice in Marybone-ſtreet, and remained about four months in that ſtation.

When the fireworks were exhibited in St. James's Park on occaſion of the peace with France, ſhe was permitted to go and ſee the extraordinary ſight; and while ſhe was a ſpectator of that magnificent ſhew, ſome women and ſeamen entered into converſation with her; and going to a public houſe, they ſpent the night and following day in intemperance.

Aſhamed now to return to her ſervice, ſhe took a lodging in St. Giles's, and becoming acquainted with ſome women of ill fame, who were ſupported by ſailors who viſited them, ſhe ſoon became as abandoned in manners as her aſſociates.

Some Iriſh ſeamen being acquainted with her, ſhe went with them to Wapping, and having drunk very

very freely, ſhe was met on her return home by a gentleman, who took her to a tavern, where ſhe found means to rob him of his gold-watch: but being taken into cuſtody that night, ſhe was lodged in the Round-houſe, and committed to Newgate the following day.

Being brought to trial at the Old-Bailey ſeſſions, ſhe was capitally convicted; but pleading that ſhe was with child, ſhe was reſpited till the year 1750, when ſentence of death was paſſed on her.

While in this diſtreſſed ſituation, ſhe acknowledged that ſhe ſhould not have pleaded being with child, but that ſhe had hopes of obtaining a pardon, on condition of tranſportation; and on the arrival of the warrant for her execution, ſhe wrung her hands, cried exceedingly, and lamented the misfortunes which firſt induced her to come to London.

On the morning of her execution, ſhe was viſited by ſome of her country-women, who having privately brought in ſome brandy, induced her to drink ſuch a quantity of it, that ſhe died in an abſolute ſtate of intoxication; though before this circumſtance ſhe had exhibited every ſign of real penitence and contrition.

She was hanged at Tyburn on the 6th of July, 1750.

The fate of this unhappy woman ſhould teach the reſt of her ſex never to depart from the paths of virtue. Though ſhe was ill-treated by her huſband, ſhe was not juſtified in repaying his hard uſage by a violation of the marriage bed.

We ſee how naturally her ill-placed revenge led to her deſtruction. Her keeper, as is too generally the caſe, left her a prey to hopeleſs penitence, and fruitleſs remorſe; and then ſhe ſought that huſband whom ſhe had ſo lately abandoned.

It ſhould be remembered that chaſtity is one of the firſt female virtues. Solomon's deſcription of a virtuous woman, of which we ſhall inſert a part from the laſt chapter of his Proverbs, is worthy of being recorded in letters of gold. "She openeth "her mouth with wiſdom, and in her tongue is the "law of kindneſs. She looketh well to the ways "of her houſhold, and eateth not the bread of idle-"neſs. Her children ariſe up, and call her bleſ-"ſed; her husband alſo, and he praiſeth her. "Many daughters have done virtuouſly, but thou "excelleſt them all. Favour is deceitful, and "beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the "Lord, ſhe ſhall be praiſed."

The caſe of JAMES COOPER, who was hanged for Murder

THIS malefactor was the ſon of a butcher at Lexton in Eſſex; and his father, who had wholly neglected his education, employed him in his own buſineſs when he was only ten years of age. Having lived with his father till he was twenty-two, he then married, and opened a ſhop at Colcheſter, where he dealt largely as a butcher, and likewiſe became a cattle-jobber.

At the end of thirteen years he found his loſſes ſo conſiderable that he could no longer carry on buſineſs; and one of his creditors arreſting him, he was thrown into the King's-bench priſon; but as his wife ſtill carried on trade, he was enabled to purchaſe the rules. Soon after this, the marſhal of the King's-bench dying, he was obliged to pay for the rules a ſecond time.

He now ſued for an allowance of the groats *; and they were paid him for about a year, when through neglect of payment, he got out of priſon, and took a ſhop in the Mint, Southwark, where he carried on his buſineſs with ſome ſucceſs, his wife maintaining the family in the country.

At length he was arreſted by another creditor, and waited two years for the benefit of an act of inſolvency. On his going to Guildford to take the benefit of the act, he found that the marſhal had not inſerted his name in the liſt with the names of the other priſoners; and having informed his creditor of this circumſtance, the marſhal was obliged to pay debt and coſts; the debtor was diſcharged, and the marſhal fined 100*l*. for the wilful omiſſion.

Cooper having now obtained his liberty, and his wife dying about the ſame time, and leaving four children, he ſent for them to London; and not long afterwards married a widow who had an equal number of children.

He now got unfortunately acquainted with Duncalf and Burrell, the former a notorious thief, and the latter a ſoldier in the guards; and theſe men adviſing him to commence robber, he fatally complied with their ſolicitations; and the following is an account of a number of robberies which they committed.

Between Stockwell and Clapham they overtook two men, one of whom ſpeaking of the probability of being attacked by footpads, drew a knife, and ſwore he would kill any man who ſhould preſume

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* After a priſoner for debt has been confined a limited time, he may ſue the creditor for the payment of *four-pence* per day; and in failure of payment, the debtor will obtain his liberty.

to

to moleſt them. The parties all drank together on the road, and then proceeded towards London, when Cooper threw down the man that was armed with the knife, and took it from him, and then robbed him and his acquaintance of a watch, about twenty ſhillings, and their handkerchiefs.

Their next robbery was on Mr. James, a taylor, whom they ſtopped on the road to Dulwich, and took from him his watch and money. He gave an immediate alarm, which occaſioned a purſuit; but the thieves effected an eſcape. Two of the three robbers wearing ſoldiers cloaths, Mr. James preſumed that they were of the guards, and going to the parade in St. James's park, he fixed on two ſoldiers as the parties who had robbed him.

As it happened that theſe men had been to Dulwich about the time that the robbery had been committed, they were ſent to priſon, and brought to trial; but had the happineſs to be acquitted.

The accomplices in iniquity being in waiting for prey near Bromley, Duncalf ſaw a gentleman riding along the road; and kneeling down, he ſeized the bridle, and obliged him to quit his horſe, when the others robbed him of his watch and two guineas and a half.

Meeting ſoon afterwards with a man and woman on one horſe, near Farnborough in Kent, they ordered them to quit the horſe, and robbed them of near forty ſhillings and then permitted them to purſue their journey. Soon after the commiſſion of this robbery they heard the voices of a number of people who were in purſuit of them; on which Cooper turned about, and they paſſed him, but ſeized on Burrell, one of them, exclaiming "This "is one of the rogues that juſt robbed my brother "and ſiſter!"

On this Burrell fired a piſtol into the air, to intimidate the purſuers, among whom were two ſoldiers, whom Duncalf and Cooper encountering at this inſtant, one of them was ſo dangerouſly wounded by his own ſword, which Duncalf wreſted from his hand, that he was ſent as an invalid to Chelſea, where he finiſhed his life.

The brother of the parties robbed, and a countryman, conteſted the matter with the thieves till the former was thrown on the ground, were Burrell beat him ſo violently that he died on the ſpot. The robbers now took their way to London, where they arrived without being purſued.

Cooper and Duncalf, the latter being provided with a bag, went to a farm-houſe, and ſtole all the fowls that were at rooſt; and Duncalf ſaying "the "firſt man we meet muſt buy my chicken;" they had not travelled far before they met with a man whom they aſked to buy the fowls. He ſaid he did not want any; but they ſeized his horſe's bridle, knocked him down, and robbed him of above twelve pounds, with his hat and wig, watch and great coat.

On one of their walks towards Camberwell, they met a man of fortune named Elliſh, whoſe ſervant was lighting him home from a club. Putting piſtols to the gentleman's breaſt, his ſervant attempted to defend him; on which they knocked him down with a bludgeon; and the maſter ſtill heſitating to deliver, they threw him on the ground, and robbed him of his money, watch, and other articles, and tying him and his ſervant back to back, threw them into a ditch, where they lay in a helpleſs manner, till a caſual paſſenger releaſed them from their diſagreeable ſituation.

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The villains now returned towards London: in their way meeting a man with a ſack of ſtolen veniſon, they robbed him of his great coat and thirty-ſix ſhillings; and a few nights afterwards they robbed a man of a few ſhillings on the Hammerſmith road, and deſtroyed a lanthorn which he carried, that he ſhould not be able to make any purſuit after them.

On their return home they met a man on horſeback, whom they would have robbed; but turning his horſe ſuddenly, they rode to Kenſington turnpike, and gave an alarm, while the thieves got through a hedge, and concealed themſelves in a field. In the interim the man they had robbed of a few ſhillings brought a number of people to take the thieves; but not finding them, though within their hearing, the man went towards his home alone, but the rogues purſuing him, took a ſtick from him and beat him ſeverely, for attempting to raiſe the country on them.

Immediately afterwards they haſtened towards Brompton, and ſtopped a gentleman whom they robbed of his watch and money. The gentleman had a dog which flew at the thieves; but Cooper coaxing the animal into good humour, immediately killed him.

Their next expedition was to Paddington, where they concealed themſelves behind a hedge, till obſerving two perſons on horſeback, they robbed them of their watches, great coats, and twelve guineas; and though an immediate alarm was given, and many perſons purſued them, they eſcaped over the fields as far as Hampſtead-heath, and came from thence to London.

Soon afterwards they ſtopped a gentleman between Kingſland and Stoke Newington, who whipped

ped Duncalf ſo that he muſt have yeilded, but that Cooper at the inſtant ſtruck the gentleman to the ground. They then robbed him of above ſeventeen pounds, and tying his hands behind him, threw him over a hedge, in which ſituation he remained till ſome milkmen relieved him on the following morning.

Meeting a man between Knightſbridge and Bromton, who had a ſhoulder of veal with him, they demanded his money; inſtead of delivering which the man knocked Cooper down three times with his veal: but the villains getting the advantage, robbed the man of his hat and meat, but could find no money in his poſſeſſion.

Cooper being incenſed againſt the perſon who had firſt arreſted him, who was Mrs. Pearſon of Hill-farm in Eſſex, determined to rob her: on which he and his accomplices went to the place, and learning that ſhe was on a viſit, waited till her return at night; when they ſtopped her and her ſervant, and robbed them of eight guineas.

On the following day Mrs. Pearſon went to a magiſtrate; and charged a perſon named Loader with having committed this robbery; but it appearing that this man was a priſoner for debt at the time, the charge neceſſarily fell to the ground.

Cooper and his aſſociates meeting a farmer named Jackſon, in a lane near Croydon, he violently oppoſed them; on which they knocked him down, and dragging him into a field, robbed him of his watch and money, tied him to a tree, and turned his horſe looſe on a common. For this robbery two farriers, named Shelton and Kellet, were apprehended, and being tried at the next aſſizes for Surry the latter was acquitted, but the former was convicted

victed on the poſitive oath of the perſon robbed, and ſuffered death*.

The three accomplices being out on the road near Dulwich, met two gentlemen on horſe-back, one of whom got from them by the goodneſs of his horſe, and the other attempted to do ſo, but was knocked down and robbed of his watch and money. In the interim the party who had rode off (whoſe name was Saxby) faſtened his horſe to a gate, and came back to relieve his friend: but the robbers firſt knocked him down and then ſhot him.

Having ſtripped him of what money he had, they haſtened towards London; but a ſuſpicion ariſing that Duncalf was concerned in this robbery and murder, he was taken into cuſtody on the following day, and Cooper being taken up on his information, Burrell ſurrendered and was admitted an evidence for the crown.

WILLIAM DUNCALF was a native of Ireland, and had received a decent education. He was apprenticed to a miller, who would not keep him on account of his knaviſh diſpoſition; and being unable to procure employment in Ireland, he came to London, where he officiated as a porter on the quays.

Extravagant in his expences, and abandoned in principle, he commenced ſmuggler: but being taken into cuſtody by the cuſtom-houſe officers, he gave information againſt ſome other ſmugglers; by which he procured his diſcharge, and was made a cuſtom-houſe officer.

Variety

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* It is impoſſible for proſecutors to be too cautious in their evidence, or juries too careful what they believe. Many lives (probably many more than we know of) have been ſacrificed to miſtaken evidence.

Variety of complaints reſpecting the neglect of his duty being preferred to the commiſſioners of the cuſtoms, he was diſmiſſed, and once more commenced ſmuggler. Among his other offences he alledged a crime againſt a cuſtom-houſe officer, who was tranſported in conſequence of Duncalf's being perjured.

We have already recounted many of his notorious crimes, in conjunction with his accomplices above-mentioned; but he did not live to ſuffer the puniſhment that he merited; for he had not been long in priſon before his fleſh rotted from his bones, and he died a dreadful monument of the Divine vengeance; though not before he had acknowledged the number and enormity of his crimes.

Cooper frequently expreſſed himſelf in terms of regret, that a villain ſo abandoned as Burrell ſhould eſcape the hands of juſtice. In other reſpects his behaviour was very reſigned, and becoming his unhappy ſituation. He acknowledged that he had frequently deliberated with Burrell on the intended murder of Duncalf, leſt he ſhould become an evidence againſt them: but he now profeſſed his happineſs that this murder had not been added to the black catalogue of his crimes.

When brought to trial he pleaded guilty, and confeſſed all the circumſtances of the murder; and after ſentence was paſſed againſt him, appeared to be a ſincere penitent for the errors of his paſt life.

Being viſited by a clergyman and his ſon, who had known him in his better days, he was queſtioned reſpecting the robbery of Mrs. Pearſon, which he denied; but had no ſooner done ſo, than he was ſeized with the utmoſt remorſe of mind, which the gaoler attributed to his dread of being hung in chains: and queſtioning him on this ſubject,

ject, he ſaid that he was indifferent about the diſpoſal of his body, but wiſhed to communicate ſomething to the clergyman who attended him: and, when he had an opportunity, he confeſſed that his uneaſineſs aroſe from the conſciouſneſs of having denied the robbery of Mrs. Pearſon, of which he was really guilty.

He was hanged at Kenſington common on the 26th of Auguſt 1750, having behaved in the moſt devout manner at the place of execution.

Few offenders commit ſuch a number of crimes as this man did before they are called to anſwer for them at the moſt awful tribunal. From his fate we may learn, that a continuance in villany is ſo far from affording ſecurity, that it effectually leads to ruin.

Habits of vice are not eaſily ſhaken off; and thoſe of virtue are equally apt to remain with us. What a leſſon does this afford for the practice of early piety, which will eſſentially influence all our future lives!

Parents ſhould remember, that an education, ſtrictly religious, is the beſt foundation for their childrens future conduct in life.

What bleſs'd examples do we find
Writ in the word of truth,
Of children that began to mind
Religion in their youth!

On the contrary, how many inſtances do we meet with, in which the want of a religious education is productive of every vice, and its conſequent deſtruction!

The Caſe of WILLIAM SMITH, who was hanged for Forgery.

IRELAND gave birth to this malefactor, whoſe father was rector of Kilenore, and having given him a tolerable idea of the learned languages at home, ſent him to Trinity college, Dublin, to finiſh his education; and then placed him with an attorney of eminence.

His father dying before the expiration of his clerkſhip, he abandoned himſelf ſo much to his pleaſures, that he was induced to commit a forgery on his maſter; in conſequence of which he received a conſiderable ſum: but being afraid of detection, he reſolved to quit his native country.

Hereupon he entered as captain's clerk on board a man of war, and behaved with propriety till about the time that the ſhip was paid off, when he took to the dangerous practice of forging ſeamen's tickets: for the captain employing him to make out tickets for the men, he made ſeveral of them payable to himſelf, and diſpoſed of them for above a hundred pounds, and likewiſe ſecreted about a hundred pounds more, which were due for wages to the ſeamen, and ſtole a ſum of money belonging to the ſurgeon's mate; with all which he decamped.

Repairing to London he took the name of Dawſon, and ſerved ſome time as clerk to an attorney; but his employer going into the country, and Smith knowing that he had capital connexions in Ireland, he forged a letter in his name, on a merchant in Dublin, for 130*l.* and carrying it himſelf, received the ſum demanded, partly in caſh, and partly in Bank-notes; on which he took his paſſage

paſſage to England, and received the amount of the notes in London.

His appearance in the capital now becoming very dangerous, he ſtrolled about the country till he was almoſt reduced to poverty, when he again went to Ireland, where he forged an order for the payment of 174*l*. 19*s*. which he received and brought to England, though a King's Bench warrant was iſſued for his apprehenſion in Ireland, and he was likewiſe indicted in that country.

Aſſuming a falſe name he ſecreted himſelf more than half a year in England, when, being reduced to poverty, he was met by a gentleman who knew him; who remarking on the meanneſs of his appearance, ſeemed ſurprized that, with his abilities, he ſhould be deſtitute of the conveniences of life.

Smith told a deplorable tale of poverty; ſaid that he was in a bad ſtate of health, and unable to viſit his friends in his preſent ſituation: on which the gentleman cloathed him decently, gave him money, and recommended him to a phyſician, whoſe ſkill reſtored him to health in a ſhort time.

Thus reinſtated for the preſent in fortune and conſtitution, he no longer viſited his benefactors, and was ſoon reduced to his former ſtate of diſtreſs.

His friend again meeting him in the uſual wretched plight, aſked him the occaſion of it; on which he ſaid, that, being indebted for lodging, he was obliged to ſell his cloaths; and that he did not call to thank the phyſician, becauſe his appearance was ſo exceedingly abject.

Hereupon his friend once more ſupplied him with cloaths; on which he went to ſee the phyſician, who deſired him to repoſe himſelf awhile, and converſed with him in the moſt ſociable way. Smith ariſing, as if to depart, preſented a piſtol to

the doctor's face, and threatened his deſtruction if he did not inſtantly give him five guineas: but the other, with great indifference, told him that he was an old man, not afraid of death; that he might act as he thought proper; but that if he perpetrated his deſign, the report of the piſtol would be infallibly heard by his ſervants; and that the conſequence would prove fatal to himſelf.

Having ſaid this, the gentleman refuſed to deliver the money demanded; on which Smith was ſo terrified, that he dropped on his knees, wept with apparent concern for his offence, and begged pardon with ſuch appearance of ſincerity, that the phyſician's humanity was excited, and he gave him three guineas, with his beſt advice for the reformation of his conduct.

Not long after this, Smith caſually meeting an acquaintance named Weeks, who ſtopped at a ſhop to receive 45 £. for a bill of exchange, was paid only 10 £. in part, being deſired to call for the reſt on a future day. Smith having witneſſed what paſſed, forged Mr. Weeks's name to a receipt for the remaining 35 £. which he received, and embarked for Holland before the villany was diſcovered.

The next offence this malefactor committed, or rather intended to commit, afforded the immediate occaſion of his being brought to juſtice. Going to the ſeat of Sir Edward Walpole, near Windſor, and demanding to ſee him, he told him he had a bond from Sir Edward to a perſon named Paterſon, who being in diſtreſſed circumſtances, he (Smith) was commiſſioned to deliver the bond on a trifling conſideration: but Sir Edward, knowing that no ſuch bond ſubſiſted, ſeized the villain, and committed him to the care of his ſervants, who conducted

ducted him before a magiſtrate, by whom he was committed to priſon at Reading.

He was examined by different juſtices of the peace on four ſucceſſive days: but all that he confeſſed was, that he was born at Andover. This, however, could not be credited, as the tone of his voice teſtified that he was a native of Ireland; on which he was committed to the gaol at Reading, for farther examination.

Smith's tranſactions having rendered him the ſubject of public converſation, a ſuſpicion aroſe that he (though then unknown) was the party who had defrauded Mr. Weeks; on which notice of the affair was ſent to London; and Mr. Weeks going to Reading, knew him to be the perſon who had forged the receipt in his name.

Hereupon he was removed to Newgate, and the next ſeſſions at the Old Bailey was capitally convicted: and though the jury recommended him to mercy, this could not be obtained, as his character was notorious, and there were five indictments againſt him.

From the time of his commitment he behaved in the moſt penitent manner, expreſſing the utmoſt compunction for the crimes of which he had been guilty, and preparing for death with every ſign of unfeigned repentance; though for ſome time he reflected on Sir Edward Walpole as the author of his deſtruction, by an interception of the royal mercy: but being aſſured that Sir Edward had not interpoſed to injure him, he took the whole blame of his misfortunes on himſelf.

He was ſo reduced in circumſtances before the day of execution, and ſo utterly deſtitute of friends to procure him a decent interment, that he was induced

duced to inſert the following advertiſement in the news-papers:

"In vain has mercy been intreated; the vengeance of heaven has overtaken me; I bow myſelf unrepining to the fatal ſtroke. Thanks to my all-gracious Creator; thanks to my moſt merciful Saviour; I go to launch into the unfathomable gulph of eternity!

"Oh! my poor ſoul! How ſtrongly doſt thou hope for the completion of eternal felicity! Almighty Jehovah, I am all reſignation to thy bleſſed will. Immaculate Jeſus! Oh ſend ſome miniſtering angel to conduct me to the bright regions of celeſtial happineſs.

"As to my corporeal frame, it is unworthy of material notice; but for the ſake of that reputable family, from whom I am deſcended, I cannot refrain from anxiety, when I think how eaſily this poor body, in my friendleſs and neceſſitous condition, may fall into the poſſeſſion of the ſurgeons, and perpetuate my diſgrace beyond the ſeverity of the law. So great an impoveriſhment has my long confinement brought upon me, that I have not a ſhilling left for ſubſiſtence, much leſs for the procuring the decency of an interment.

"Therefore I do moſt fervently intreat the generoſity of the humane and charitably compaſſionate, to afford me ſuch a contribution as may be ſufficient to protect my dead body from indecency, and to give me the conſolation of being aſſured, that my poor aſhes ſhall be decently depoſited within the limits of conſecrated ground.

"The deprivation of life is a ſufficient puniſhment for my crimes, even in the rigorous eye of offended juſtice; after death ſhe has permitted my remains to paſs without further ignominy; then why

why ſhould inhumanity lay her butchering hands on an inoffenſive carcaſs? Ah! rather give me the ſatisfaction of thinking I ſhall return to my parent duſt, within the confines of a grave.

" Thoſe who compaſſionate my deplorable ſituation, are deſired to ſend their humane contributions to Mrs. Browning's, next door to the Golden Acorn, in Little Wild-ſtreet; and that heaven may reward their charitable diſpoſition, is the dying prayer of the loſt and unhappy

WILLIAM SMITH."

It would be ſtrange if this addreſs, ſo calculated to impreſs the feeling heart, had not produced the intended effect. Mrs. Browning advertiſed, that the ſubſcriptions of the humane were ſufficient to anſwer the propoſed end.

Juſt before the quitting Newgate, Smith prayed moſt devoutly; nor at the place of execution was he leſs fervent in imploring the divine mercy.

He was hanged at Tyburn on the 3d of October 1750.

Forgery, in any caſe, is a crime of great magnitude: but the forgeries of this man were aggravated by being committed to the prejudice of his beſt benefactors, and that of thoſe who were little able to ſuſtain the loſs. His ingratitude was very extraordinary: let us hope that his penitence was equally ſo; and that the readers of this work may never be tempted to acts of equal ingratitude, or crimes of equal enormity.

It is remarkable of many offenders, that they take more pains to perpetrate their villainies, than they would do to ſupport themſelves in the moſt reputable manner. This is a ſtrong argument, if there were no other, againſt acts of diſhoneſty: but

there is no perſon who is not devoid of common ſenſe, and who has a proper regard to his happineſs temporal and eternal, but will be honeſt on SUPERIOR MOTIVES.

Narrative of the remarkable Caſe of JAMES MACLANE, who was hanged for a Robbery on the Highway.

AS the ſtory of this malefactor was as much the ſubject of public converſation, as that of almoſt any one whoſe life has paid the penalty to the offended laws, we ſhall be the more particular in our account of him.

He was deſcended from a reputable family in the North of Scotland; but his father, after being liberally educated in the univerſity of Glaſgow, went to ſettle at Monaghan in the North of Ireland, as preacher to a congregation of diſſenters in that place, where he married and had two ſons, the elder of whom was bred to the church, and preached many years to the Engliſh congregation at the Hague, and was equally remarkable for his learning, and the goodneſs of his heart. The younger ſon was the unfortunate ſubject of this narrative.

The father dying when he was about eighteen, and his effects falling into his hands, the whole produce was waſted in extravagance before he was twenty years of age. In this dilemma he applied for relief to his mother's relations, with a view to fit him out for the naval ſervice; but as they refuſed to aſſiſt him, he entered into the ſervice of a gentleman named Howard, who brought him to London.

It

It was not long after his arrival in the metropolis before he abandoned his ſervice; and going to Ireland, he again ſolicited the aſſiſtance of his mother's relations, who were either unwilling or unable to afford him relief.

Hereupon he abandoned all thoughts of applying to them for ſupport; but this was for ſome time liberally afforded him by his brother at the Hague, till his expences began to be too conſiderable for a continued ſupport from that quarter; for his brother's whole income would not have ſufficed to maintain him as a gentleman.

Hereupon Maclane found it neceſſary to procure ſome employment; and making an intereſt with a military gentleman who had known his father, he recommended him to a colonel who had a country ſeat near Cork. This gentleman engaged him as a butler; and he continued a conſiderable time in his ſervice, till, ſecreting ſome effects, he was diſmiſſed with diſgrace, and rendered unable to procure another place in that part of the kingdom.

Being reduced to circumſtances of diſtreſs, he conceived an idea of entering into the Iriſh Brigades in the ſervice of France, and communicated his intention to a gentleman, who adviſed him to decline all thoughts of ſuch a procedure, as he could have no proſpect of riſing in his profeſſion, unleſs he changed his religion; a circumſtance that he would not conſent to; for he ſtill retained ſome ſenſe of the pious education he had received.

Notwithſtanding the colonel abovementioned had diſmiſſed him his ſervice, yet fearing that his deſperate circumſtances might induce him to farther acts of diſhoneſty, he entruſted him with the care of his baggage to London; and Maclane wiſhing to enter as a private man in lord Albe-

marle's troop of horſe-guards, ſolicited the colonel to advance him the neceſſary ſum to procure his admiſſion.

The colonel ſeemed willing to favour his ſcheme; but thinking it dangerous to truſt the money in his hands, he committed it to the care of an officer belonging to the troop, which was then in Flanders. Every thing was prepared; and his credentials were ready for his joining the troop, when he ſuddenly declined all thoughts of entering into the army.

Maclane's ruling paſſion was dreſs, as an introduction to the company of women; and having received about fifty pounds from ſome females of more good-nature than ſenſe, under pretence of fitting himſelf out for a Weſt-India voyage, he expended the greater part of it in elegant cloaths, and commenced a profeſſed fortune-hunter.

At length he married the daughter of Mr. Macglegno, a horſe-dealer, with whom he received five hundred pounds, with which he commenced the buſineſs of a grocer, in Welbeck-ſtreet, Cavendiſh-ſquare, and ſupported his family with ſome degree of credit till the expiration of three years, when his wife died, bequeathing two infant daughters to the care of her parents, who kindly undertook to provide for them; and both theſe children were living at the time of the father's ignominious death.

Hitherto Maclane's character among his neighbours was unimpeached; but ſoon after the death of his wife, he ſold his ſtock in trade and furniture, and aſſumed the character of a fine gentleman, in the hope of engaging the attention of ſome lady of fortune, to which he thought himſelf

ſelf entitled by the gracefulneſs of his perſon, and the elegance of his appearance.

At the end of about ſix months he had expended all his money, and became greatly dejected in mind, from reflecting on that change of fortune that would probably reduce him to his former ſtate of ſervitude. While in this ſtate of dejection, an Iriſh apothecary, named Plunkett, viſited him, and enquired into the cauſe of his deſpondency. Macklane acknowledged the reduced ſtate of his finances, candidly confeſſed that he had no money left, nor knew any way of raiſing a ſhilling but by the diſpoſal of his wearing apparel: in anſwer to which Plunkett addreſſed him as follows.

"I thought that Maclane had ſpirit and reſo-
" lution, with ſome knowledge of the world. A
" brave man cannot want: he has a right to live,
" and not want the conveniencies of life, while
" the dull, plodding, buſy knaves, carry caſh in
" their pockets. We muſt draw upon them to
" ſupply our wants: there needs only impudence,
" and getting the better of a few idle ſcruples:
" there is ſcarce courage neceſſary. All whom
" we have to deal with are mere paltroons."

Theſe arguments, equally ill-founded and ridiculous, co-operated ſo forcibly with the poverty of Maclane, that he entered into converſation with Plunkett on the ſubject of going on the highway; and at length they entered into a ſolemn agreement to abide by each other in all adventures, and to ſhare the profit of their depredations to the laſt ſhilling: nor does it appear that either of them defrauded the other.

Maclane, though he had conſented to commit depredations on the public, yet was ſo impreſſed by that remorſe of conſcience which will never

quit a mind not wholly abandoned, even when engaged in unlawful actions, that in his firſt, and moſt ſubſequent, attempts, he diſcovered evident ſigns of want of that falſe bravery which villains would call courage.

The firſt robbery theſe men committed in conjunction was on Hounſlow-heath, where they ſtopped a grazier on his return from Smithfield, and took from him about ſixty pounds.

This money being ſoon ſpent in extravagance, they were induced to take a ride on the St. Albans road, and ſeeing a ſtage-coach coming forward, they agreed to ride up on the oppoſite ſides of the carriage. Maclane's fears induced him to heſitate; and when at length Plunkett ordered the driver to ſtop, it was with the utmoſt trepidation that the other demanded the money of the paſſengers.

On their return to London at night, Plunkett cenſured him as a coward, and told him that he was unfit for his buſineſs. This had ſuch an effect on him, that he ſoon afterwards went out alone, and unknown to Plunkett; and having robbed a gentleman of a large ſum, he returned, and ſhared it with his companion.

A ſhort time only had elapſed after this expedition, when he ſtopped and robbed the honourable Horace Walpole, and his piſtol accidentally went off during the attack. For ſome time did he continue this irregular mode of life, during which he paid two guineas a week for his lodgings, and lived in a ſtile of elegance, which he accounted for by aſſerting that he had an eſtate in Ireland which produced ſeven hundred pounds a year.

During this time his children were in the care of his mother-in-law, whom he ſeldom viſited; and when he did, would not ſit down, nor ſtay long

long enough for her to give him ſuch advice as might have proved uſeful to him.

On a particular occaſion he narrowly eſcaped the hands of juſtice, which terrified him ſo much, that he went to Holland on a viſit to his brother, who received him with every mark of fraternal affection, and though unſuſpecting of the mode in which he lived, having but too much reaſon to fear that he was of a diſſipated turn of mind, gave him the beſt advice for the regulation of his future conduct.

Having remained in Holland till he preſumed his tranſactions in this country were in ſome meaſure forgotten, he returned to England, renewed his depredations on the public, and lived in a ſtile of the utmoſt elegance. He frequented all the public places, was well known at the gaming-houſes, and was not unfrequent in his viſits to ladies of eaſy virtue.

The ſpeciouſneſs of his behaviour, the gracefulneſs of his perſon, and the elegance of his appearance, combined to make him a welcome viſitor even at the houſes of women of character; and he had ſo far ingratiated himſelf into the affections of a young lady, that her ruin would probably have been the conſequence of their connexion, but that a gentleman caſually hearing of the affair, and knowing that Maclane's higheſt character was that of a ſharper, he interpoſed his timely advice, and ſaved her from deſtruction.

Hereupon the viſits of Maclane were forbidden; a circumſtance that chagrined him ſo much that he ſent a challenge to the gentleman, which was treated with that degree of contempt which all challenges ought to be. Our hero, ſtill the more vexed by this circumſtance, went to ſeveral coffee-houſes,

houſes, and ſaying that the gentleman had refuſed to meet him, abuſed him in the moſt opprobrious terms; but thoſe who knew the ſtory ſaid it was no proof of cowardice for a man of honour to refuſe to meet a perſon of abandoned character.

Encouraged by his repeated ſucceſſes, Maclane was thrown off his guard, his uſual caution forſook him, and he became every day more free to commit robbery, and leſs apprehenſive of detection: for he imagined that Plunkett's turning evidence could alone affect him; and he had no doubt of the fidelity of his accomplice.

On the 26th of June, 1750, Plunkett and Maclane riding out together, met the earl of Eglinton in a poſt-chaiſe beyond Hounſlow, when Maclane advancing to the poſt-boy, commanded him to ſtop, but placed himſelf in a direct line before the driver, leſt his lordſhip ſhould ſhoot him with a blunderbuſs, with which he always travelled; for he was ſenſible that the peer would not fire ſo as to endanger the life of the poſt-boy. In the interim, Plunkett forced a piſtol through the glaſs at the back of the chaiſe, and threatened inſtant deſtruction unleſs his lordſhip threw away the blunderbuſs.

The danger of his ſituation rendered compliance neceſſary, and his lordſhip was robbed of his money and a ſurtout coat. After the carriage drove forward, Maclane took up the coat and blunderbuſs, both of which were found in his lodgings when he was apprehended: but when he was afterwards tried for the offence which coſt him his life, lord Eglinton did not appear againſt him.

On the day of the robbery abovementioned Maclane and Plunkett ſtopped the Saliſbury ſtage, and took two portmanteaus, which, with the booty they had already obtained, was conveyed to Maclane's lodgings

lodgings in Pall-Mall, where the plunder was ſhared.

Immediate notice of this robbery was given in the news-papers, and the articles ſtolen were deſcribed: yet Maclane was ſo much off his guard, that he ſtripped the lace from a waiſtcoat, the property of one of the gentlemen who had been robbed, and happened to carry it for ſale to the laceman of whom it had been purchaſed.

He alſo went to a ſaleſman in Monmouth-ſtreet, named Loader, who attended him to his lodgings, but had no ſooner ſeen what cloaths he had to ſell, than he knew them to be thoſe which had been advertiſed; and pretending that he had not money enough to purchaſe them, ſaid he would go home for more: inſtead of which he procured a conſtable, apprehended Maclane, and took him before a magiſtrate.

Many perſons of rank, of both ſexes, attended his examination; ſeveral of whom were ſo affected with his ſituation, that they contributed liberally towards his preſent ſupport. Being committed to the Gatehouſe, he requeſted a ſecond examination before the magiſtrate, when he confeſſed all that was alledged againſt him; and his confeſſion was taken in writing.

On this he was recommitted to the priſon abovementioned: and during his confinement a gentleman wrote to his brother at the Hague a narrative of his unhappy caſe, which produced the following letter, which exhibits an equal proof of fraternal affection, and a regard to the laws of equity.

Utrecht,

Utrecht, Auguſt the 16, N. S. 1750.

Sir,

I RECEIVED your melancholy letter; but the diſmal news it contained had reached me before it arrived, as I have been happily abſent from the Hague ſome time.

I never thought that any belonging to me would have loaded me with ſuch heart-breaking affliction, as the infamous crimes of him, whom I will call brother no more, have brought upon me. How often, and how ſolemnly, have I admoniſhed him of the miſerable conſequences of an idle life, and, alas! to no purpoſe! However that be, I have made all the intereſt poſſible for his life, filled with ſhame and confuſion, that I have been obliged to make demands ſo contrary to juſtice, and hardly knowing with what face to do it, in the character I bear as a miniſter of truth and righteouſneſs.

It is the intereſt of ſome friends I have made here, that can only ſave his life; they have loſt no time in applying, and I hope their endeavours will be ſucceſsful; but I ſtill hope more, that if Providence ſhould order events, as that he eſcapes the utmoſt rigour of the law, and has that life prolonged which he deſerves not to enjoy any longer, I hope, or rather wiſh, that in ſuch a caſe he may have a proper ſenſe and feeling of his enormous crimes, which lay an ample foundation for drawing out the wretched remainder of his days in ſorrow and repentance. With reſpect to me, it would give me conſolation, if I could hope that this would be the iſſue of his trial; it would comfort me on his account as he is a man, becauſe I will never acknowledge

knowledge him in any nearer relation, and becauſe, except ſuch good offices as former ties and preſent humanity demands from me in his behalf, I am determined never to have any farther correſpondence with him during this mortal life.

I have given orders to look towards his ſubſiſtence, and what is neceſſary for it.

I am obliged to you, Sir, for your attention in communicating to me this diſmal news, and ſhall willingly embrace any opportunity of ſhewing myſelf, Sir, your moſt obedient, &c.

P. S. If you ſee this my unhappy brother, let him know my compaſſion for his miſery, as well as my indignation againſt his crimes; and alſo that I ſhall omit nothing in my power to have his ſufferings mitigated. He has I fear broke my heart, and will make me draw on the reſt of my days in ſorrow.

At the next ſeſſions at the Old Bailey, Maclane was indicted, and pleaded "Not guilty;" and read a paper that had been drawn up for him, tending to extenuate his crimes: but his confeſſion being produced againſt him, and much corroborative proof ariſing, the jury found him guilty without quitting the court. When brought up to receive ſentence of death, and aſked, as is cuſtomary, what he had to ſay for himſelf, he made an eſſay to addreſs the court; but powers failing, he only exclaimed, "My lord, I cannot ſpeak!"

Maclane, having been educated as a Diſſenter, was attended, at his own requeſt, by Dr. Allen, a reverend divine of the Preſbyterian perſuaſion. When the doctor firſt viſited him, he found him in a ſtate of dreadful dejection of mind, but by no means an infidel with reſpect to religious matters.

He confeſſed that his companions had reprobated the doctrines of Chriſtianity; but, for his part, he had always believed them, however contrary to them he had acted: and he attributed this faith to the religious education he had received.

He likewiſe declared that "neither death, nor "the violence and infamy, with which in his caſe it "would be attended, gave him the leaſt uneaſineſs; "but expreſſed the moſt dreadful apprehenſion of "coming into the preſence of the Almighty, whoſe "laws he had only known to violate, and the mo- "tions of whoſe ſpirit he had felt only to ſup- "preſs."

The reverend divine adviſed him to rely with confidence on the merits of his Saviour; but at the ſame time to conſider how different it would be even for himſelf to aſcertain the ſincerity of that repentance, which did not appear to ſubſiſt till immediate puniſhment threatened to ſucceed his guilt, and death ſtared him in the face.

This argument appeared to be felt in all its force, but the criminal declared that "if the utmoſt ab- "horrence of himſelf for the enormities of his life; "if the deepeſt ſenſe of his ingratitude to God, "and the violation of his conſcience, which always "reproached him: if indignation at himſelf for "the injuries he had done to ſociety, and the diſ- "treſſes he had brought upon his relations were "marks of ſincere contrition, he hoped that he was "a real penitent."

Dr. Allen remarking that the paper he had read at his trial was no proof of his penitence, he ſaid an attorney had adviſed him to make that defence, and he thought himſelf juſtified in ſuch an attempt to preſerve his life. The doctor mentioning a report that had prevailed of the living on bad terms with

with his wife, and haſtening her death by his cruel treatment of her; Maclane poſitively denied that any ſuch circumſtances had exiſted; and the affectionate leave which his wife's mother took of him gave credit to his affirmation.

He confeſſed that he entertained but ſmall hope of a reprieve; and being told that the number of robberies then lately committed by perſons of genteel appearance ſeemed to preclude any hope, he ſubmitted with great reſignation, wiſhed that his fate might afford a warning to the young and thoughtleſs, and earneſtly exclaimed, "Glad ſhould "I be, as my life hath been vile, my death might "be uſeful!" He behaved ſtill more compoſed than before, after the arrival of the warrant for his execution.

Maclane aſking the doctor reſpecting the propriety of his receiving the ſacrament with the other priſoners on the morning of execution, no objection was made to it; but the doctor told him he hoped he would not conſider it as a charm or paſſport into eternity, as he feared was but too common with the vulgar.

Some gentlemen having brought a letter from Maclane's brother in Holland, Dr. Allen delivered it to him, in their preſence, on the day before his execution. On receipt of it, he appeared wrapt in grief, and exclaimed "O my dear brother! I "have broke his heart!" After heſitating ſome time, he ſaid, "I have been long acquainted with "ſorrow, and cutting as this letter will be to my "heart I will read it."—Obſerving the firſt words in it to be "Unhappy brother," he cried "Un-"happy indeed!" and then read the letter with as much compoſure as his conflicting paſſions would permit.

All parties now joined in devotion, and the ſtrangers wept abundantly on the ſolemn occaſion. In the evening Dr. Allen took a final leave of the convict, who thanked him on his knees for all his goodneſs, prayed for the bleſſing of God Almighty on his head, and added, " This is the bit-
" terneſs of death!"

Having ſpent the night in devotion, he prepared to meet his fate with decent reſignation. On the following day, when he entered the cart, he ſaid, " O my God! I have forſaken thee, but I will " truſt in thee." When going to the place of execution, it was obſerved that his behaviour was uncommonly devout; and when he arrived there he was equally warm in his appeal to Heaven for mercy. After the cap was drawn over his eyes, he ſaid " O God! forgive my enemies, bleſs my friends, and receive my ſoul!"

He was executed at Tyburn on the 3d of October, 1750.

After the ſuccinct account we have given of this malefactor, it will be the leſs neceſſary to make any copious remarks on his caſe. The ſtory ſpeaks for itſelf. An immoderate attachment to what is falſly called pleaſure, a turn for gaiety and diſſipation, an idle and unwarrantable fondneſs for the graces of his own perſon, ſeem to have laid the foundation of Maclane's ruin.

From his unhappy fate, then, the doctrines of humility, and content with our ſtation, will be better learnt than by a thouſand ſermons. We ſee, in his caſe, moſt evidently, that the ways of vice lead to deſtruction; that " Wiſdom's ways are ways " of pleaſantneſs, and all her paths are peace."— How eligible is it to chuſe the plain path of wiſdom!

How

How abſurd to deviate into the thorny wilderneſs of vice!

The Caſe of Amy Hutchinson, who was hanged for Petit Treaſon.

THE Iſle of Ely gave birth to this malefactor, who was the daughter of parents who were rather in low circumſtances, yet contrived to keep her at ſchool till ſhe was twelve years of age; rightly judging that a tolerable education is frequently the ground-work of prudent and dutiful behaviour.

At the age of ſixteen ſhe was grown a tall fine girl, at which time ſhe was addreſſed by a young man, whoſe love ſhe returned with equal affection. Her father being appriſed of this connexion, ſtrictly charged his daughter to decline it; but there was no arguing againſt love; the connexion continued till it became criminal.

The young fellow beginning to grow tired of her, though he had ſeduced her under promiſe of marriage, declared his reſolution of going to London; but ſaid that he would wed her on his return. Shocked at this apparent infidelity, ſhe determined on revenge; a revenge that proved fatal to herſelf, and which ſhe had but too eaſy a method of carrying into execution.

The former lover had no ſooner left her than ſhe was addreſſed by a young man named John Hutchinſon; and though he had been always extremely diſagreeable to her, ſhe agreed to marry him on the very next day after he had paid her a formal viſit.

The

The conſequence was, that the marriage took place immediately; but her admirer happening to return from London, juſt as the newly-wedded pair were coming out of church, the bride was greatly affected at the recollection of former ſcenes, and at reflecting on the irrevocable ceremony which had now paſſed.

She was unable to love the man ſhe had married, and doated to diſtraction on him ſhe had rejected: and only a few days after her marriage admitted him to his former intimacy with her; a circumſtance that gave full ſcope to the envious tongues of her neighbours.

Hutchinſon becoming jealous of his wife, a quarrel enſued, in conſequence of which he beat her with great ſeverity: but this producing no alteration in her conduct, he had recourſe to drinking, with a view to avoid the pain of reflecting on his ſituation.

In the interim, his wife and the young fellow continued their guilty intercourſe uninterrupted; but conſidering the life of the huſband as a bar to their happineſs, it was reſolved to remove him by poiſon; for which purpoſe the wife purchaſed a quantity of arſenick; and Mr. Hutchinſon being afflicted with an ague, and wiſhing for ſomething warm to drink, the wife put ſome arſenick in ale, of which he drank very plentifully; and then ſhe left him, ſaying ſhe would go and buy ſomething for his dinner.

Meeting her lover, ſhe acquainted him with what had paſſed; on which he adviſed her to buy more poiſon, fearing the firſt might not be ſufficient to operate; but its effects were too fatal; for he died about dinner-time on the ſame day.

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Her mother viſiting her on the day that the unhappy man died, and being ſuſpicious, from her former conduct, that ſome indirect methods had been uſed to deſtroy him, ſhe ſaid, "I am afraid you "have done ſomething to your huſband;" to which Mrs. Hutchinſon only ſaid, "What makes "you think ſo, mother?"

The deceaſed was buried on the following Sunday, and the next day the former lover renewed his viſits; which occaſioning the neighbours to talk very freely of the affair, the young widow was taken into cuſtody the ſame day, on ſuſpicion of having committed the murder.

The body of the deceaſed being now taken up, the coroner's jury was ſummoned, and the verdict they gave was, "That John Hutchinſon had died by poiſon;" on which the woman was committed to the gaol at Ely.

She had council to plead for her on the trial; but the evidence againſt her being ſuch as ſatisfied the jury, ſhe was convicted, and ordered for execution.

After conviction ſhe confeſſed the juſtice of thoſe laws by which ſhe had been condemned. She was attended by a clergyman, to whom ſhe acknowledged the magnitude of her crime, and profeſſed the moſt unfeigned penitence.

She was burnt at Ely on the 7th of November, 1750, after making a ſpeech, in which ſhe exhorted young people to avoid the danger of making connexions with which their parents were unacquainted.

The caſe of this unhappy woman will point out to us, in a forcible manner, the villany of thoſe men who ſeduce women under promiſe of marriage; ſince, in almoſt every inſtance, ruin is the conſequence

quence to the deluded girl; and the man, if he has any ſenſe of honour left, muſt be wretched from the reflection of the calamities he has occaſioned.

It will likewiſe teach us the extreme impropriety of marriage from motives of revenge; and, indeed, of any marriage where hearts are not united. We have few inſtances of women marrying contrary to their inclinations, in which they are even tolerably happy. Parents, then, ſhould learn to conſult the inclinations of their children in the important article of marriage, where it can be done with any tolerable degree of propriety; and children ſhould conſider themſelves as bound by every tie of gratitude, to honour thoſe parents who are thus kindly conſiderate.

Hiſtory of the Caſe of JOHN VICARS, who was hanged for murder.

THIS malefactor was the ſon of a farmer at Doddington in the Iſle of Ely, who dying in the infancy of his ſon, the mother married another huſband, who paid no regard to the education of the child.

At the age of fourteen, he was apprenticed to the earl of Leiceſter's gardener, with whom he ſerved his time, and afterwards lived with him as a journeyman: but ſoon quitted his ſtation, in conſequence of an illicit connexion with the wife of a man who vowed revenge for the inſult.

After this he lived near a year with Mr. Bridgman, gardener, at Kenſington, and might have continued longer: but having a propenſity to the life

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of a ſailor, he entered on board the Exeter man of war.

This ſhip being ſoon paid off, Vicars aſſociated himſelf with a gang of Suſſex ſmugglers, in conſequence of which he was apprehended by a party of dragoons, committed to the New-gaol, Southwark, and brought to trial; but had the good fortune to be acquitted.

After this he worked as a gardener at Chelſea, with Mr. Millar, the celebrated botaniſt; and he likewiſe worked at other places round the country; but his attachment to women was ſuch, that he was compelled to leave his ſervice more than once.

Having ſerved as a gardener to many gentlemen, he went to his native place, and married; but lived unhappily with his wife, whoſe ill ſtate of health helped to ſour her temper, ſo that frequent quarrels enſued. Having ſerved as a dragoon during part of the rebellion in 1745, he was diſcharged, and went home; but his wife died within a year after his return.

Remaining a widower about a year, he courted Mary Hainſworth, a woman more diſtinguiſhed by her beauty than her regard to virtue. A criminal connexion enſued; and after a cohabitance of ſome weeks, ſhe urged him to marry her, and mentioned her pregnancy as a reaſon for the celebration of the nuptials.

Vicars heſitating, ſhe declared ſhe would deſtroy herſelf, unleſs he would marry her; on which he quitted her for a few days, to ſee if ſhe would carry her threats into execution. In the interim ſhe kept company with a coachman; a circumſtance that tempted Vicars to think that he ſhould be no longer troubled with her; but the coachman went

to London, after cohabiting with her only a few days.

Immediately on his abſence, the connexion between her and Vicars was renewed on their former terms of intimacy, and at length ſhe had art enough to perſuade him to marry her.

After marriage they lived tolerably happy for about two months; but at length he ſincerely repented of the connexion; and from words they proceeded to blows, the conſequence of which was, that the wife went to live with her mother, and refuſed to return to her huſband.

Some days after her abſence, Vicars paſſing by the mother's door, ſaw his wife, and begged that ſhe would be reconciled to him; but the old woman coming home at that inſtant, abuſed him in the moſt opprobrious terms, beat him violently, and bade her daughter ſtab him with a knife ſhe then happened to have in her hand.

The mother's horrid command would have been inſtantly obeyed, but that Vicars fell bakwards over the threſhold; and the old woman falling on him, he rolled her into the channel; on which the daughter made an effort to ſtab him; but he effected an immediate eſcape.

On this the two women ſwore the peace againſt him the next day, and procured a warrant for his apprehenſion: whereupon he went to aſk a gentleman's advice, which was, that he ſhould ſell his effects, and ſecrete himſelf.

He propoſed to do as adviſed on the following day, but was ſo infatuated, that he called on his wife on his return home; and no ſooner did he behold her, than, inflamed with paſſion, he pulled out a knife, and attempted to cut her throat; but her reſiſtance occaſioned his driving it through her

her neck, which being done, he ran into the ſtreet, deſiring the people to take him into cuſtody, or he would put an end to his own life.

His behaviour was ſo frantic, that the people ſeemed afraid of him, till he was ſeized by a man named Boone, who led him to priſon; and on the following day he readily confeſſed the crime of which he had been guilty.

He was indicted at the ſame aſſizes with Amy Hutchinſon (mentioned in the preceding account), and pleaded guilty; on which, ſentence of death was paſſed on him.

After conviction he behaved in the moſt devout manner; ſaid that he had been married only ten weeks, but declared that he had no wiſh to protract his life; for that the temper of his wife was ſuch, that he ſhould have been tempted to have murdered her ſome other time, if he had not done it when he did.

He was carried to the place of execution with Amy Hutchinſon, joined in devotion with her, and exhibited every mark of ſincere contrition. At his requeſt the woman was firſt executed, and when he ſaw the flames burning around her, he walked to the gallows, aſſiſted in fixing the rope to his neck, and threw himſelf off the ladder.

He was hanged at Ely on the 7th of November, 1750.

In the caſes of the two laſt-mentioned malefactors, we ſee that the woman was burnt for the murder of her huſband, while the man was hanged for the murder of his wife. Whence, it may be aſked, this difference of puniſhment? but it ſhould be remembered that the laws of this country are founded on the doctrines of religion; and it is a well-known part of the Chriſtian ſyſtem that

" wives ſhould be obedient to their huſbands in " all things."

Hence, then, that ſevere puniſhment decreed againſt women who murder their huſbands, which is called petit treaſon, and deemed next in degree to high treaſon; which is ſeeking to murder the reigning prince, who, under heaven, is deemed the common parent of the public; and whoſe preſervation is therefore guarded by the ſtricteſt laws, as eſſential to the public welfare.

The uncommon caſe of JOHN CARR, who was hanged for forgery.

THIS malefactor was a native of the north of Ireland. His parents were reſpectable, and his education was genteel. At ſixteen years of age he was ſent to reſide with a kinſman in Dublin. When he grew to years of maturity, his kinſman put him into buſineſs as a wine and brandy-merchant, and he ſeemed to be in the road of ſucceſs: but this friend dying, he attached himſelf to bad company, neglected his buſineſs, loſt his cuſtomers, and was ſoon greatly reduced in his circumſtances.

A man of fortune, who was one of his abandoned aſſociates, invited Carr to paſs part of the ſummer at his ſeat in the country; and ſetting out together, they ſtopped at Kilkenny, where ſome paſſengers quitted a coach; among whom was a young lady, whoſe elegant perſon and appearance impreſſed Carr with an idea that ſhe was of rank, and inſpired him with the firſt ſentiments of love that he ever felt.

Throwing himſelf from his horſe, he handed her into the inn; and a propoſal being made that the

the company ſhould ſup together, it was agreed to on all hands; and while the ſupper was preparing, Carr applied himſelf to the coachman, to learn the hiſtory of the young lady: but all the information he could obtain was, that he had taken her up at Dublin, and that ſhe was going to the Spa at Mallow.

Carr, being anxious to become better acquainted with the lady, prevailed on the company to repoſe themſelves the next day at Kilkenny, and take a view of the duke of Ormond's ſeat, and the curioſities of the town. This propoſal being acceded to, the evening was ſpent in the utmoſt harmony and good humour; and the fair ſtranger even then conceived an idea of making a conqueſt of Mr. Carr, from whoſe appearance ſhe judged that he was a man of diſtinction.

In the morning ſhe dreſſed herſelf to great advantage; not forgetting the ornament of jewels, which ſhe wore in abundance; ſo that when ſhe entered the room, Carr was aſtoniſhed at her appearance. She found the influence ſhe had over him, and reſolved to afford him an early opportunity of ſpeaking his ſentiments: and while the company was walking in the gallery of the duke of Ormond's palace, this opportunity offered.

The lady affected diſpleaſure at this explicit declaration; but ſoon aſſuming a more affable deportment, ſhe told him that ſhe was an Engliſh woman of rank; that his perſon was not diſagreeable to her; and that if he was a man of fortune, and the conſent of her relations could be obtained, ſhe ſhould not be averſe to liſtening to his addreſſes. She farther ſaid that ſhe was going to ſpend part of the ſummer at Mallow, where his company would be agreeable; and he followed her to that place, contrary

trary to the advice of his friend, who had formed a very unfavourable opinion of the lady's character.

Here he diſſipated ſo much caſh in company with this woman, that he was compelled to borrow of his friend, who remonſtrated on the impropriety of the connexion: but Carr ſtill kept her company, and at the end of the ſeaſon returned with her to Dublin.

Here the lovers agreed to ſail for England; and Carr ſold ſome ſmall eſtates, and borrowing all the money he poſſibly could, delivered the whole to his miſtreſs.

Preparations were now made for the voyage, and Carr employed himſelf in procuring a paſſage to England; but in his abſence the lady ſhipped all the effects on board a veſſel bound for Amſterdam; and having dreſſed herſelf in man's apparel, ſhe embarked and ſailed, leaving Carr to regret his ill-judged credulity.

On his return home, diſcovering how he had been robbed, he was at firſt half diſtracted with his loſs; but on cooler reflection, he thought it would be in vain to purſue the thief; on which he ſold the few trifles that remained of his property, which producing about a hundred pounds, he came to London, and ſoon ſpent the whole in debauchery and extravagance.

Thus reduced, he enliſted as a foot-ſoldier, and ſerved ſome years before he was diſcharged; after which he entered as a marine at Plymouth, whence he came to London, and opened a ſhop in Hog lane, St. Giles's. He now married a girl who he thought had money; but ſoon diſcovering her poverty, he abandoned her, and removed

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to Short's-gardens, where he entered into partnerſhip with a cork-cutter.

Having ſoon ingratiated himſelf into the eſteem of the cuſtomers, he opened ſhop on his own account, and ſoon got all the buſineſs from his late partner. This, however, proved of no ſervice to him, for, getting into bad company, he frequented the gaming tables, and became the dupe of ſharpers.

Theſe villains, determined to poſſeſs themſelves of all his money, offered to procure him a wife of fortune, though they knew he had a wife living; and actually contrived to introduce him to a young lady of property; and a marriage would probably have taken place, but that one of them, ſtruck with remorſe of conſcience, developed the affair to her father, and fruſtrated the whole ſcheme: and ſoon afterwards Carr's companions quitted him, having reduced him to the laſt ſhilling.

Having been entruſted by a gentleman with a draught on the bank for ſixty-pounds, he received the money, and ſpent it all in the loweſt ſcenes of debauchery, and then entered as a marine.

There being ſomething in his deportment ſuperior to the vulgar, he was advanced to the rank of ſerjeant, in which he behaved ſo well that his officers treated him with ſingular regard.

The veſſel in which he ſailed taking a merchantſhip richly laden, and ſoon afterwards ſeveral ſmaller veſſels, the prize-money amounted to a conſiderable ſum; which gave Carr an idea that great advantage might be obtained by privateering. Hereupon he procured a diſcharge, and entering on board a privateer, was made maſter at arms.

In a few days the privateer took two French ſhips, one of which they carried to Briſtol, and the other into the harbour of Poole. Having refitted their ſhip,

ſhip, they ſailed again ; and in two days took a French privateer, and gave chace to three others, which they found to be Engliſh veſſels belonging to Falmouth, which had been made prize of by a French privateer. Theſe they retook, and carried them into Falmouth : in their paſſage to which place they made prize of a valuable French ſhip, the amount of which contributed to enrich the crew.

On their next trip they ſaw a ſhip in full chace of them ; on which they prepared for a vigorous defence : and indeed it was neceſſary ; for the veſſels fought above forty minutes, yard-arm and yard-arm. Many hands were loſt by the French, who at length attempted to ſheer off, but were taken after a chace of ſome leagues.

The commander of the Engliſh privateer being deſperately wounded in the engagement, died in a few days; on which Carr courted his widow, and a marriage would have taken place, but that ſhe was ſeized with a violent fever, which deprived her of life : but not before ſhe had bequeathed him all ſhe was poſſeſſed of.

Having diſpoſed of her effects, he repaired to London, where he commenced ſmuggler: but his ill-gotten effects being ſeized on by the officers of the revenue, he took to the more dangerous practice of forging ſeamen's wills, and gained money for ſome time : but being apprehended, he was brought to trial at the Old Bailey, convicted, and was ſentenced to die.

He was of the Romiſh perſuaſion, and behaved with decent reſignation to his fate.

He was hanged at Tyburn on the 16th of November, 1750.

Having had frequent opportunities of remarking on the nature and conſequence of the horrid crime of forgery ;

gery; we ſhall in this caſe advert to the folly of Carr being duped by a notorious ſtrumpet, contrary to the advice of his friend.

There is nothing that young men ought more carefully to avoid than a laſting connexion with women, ariſing from a caſual acquaintance. Thouſands have been the inſtances of ruin occaſioned by ſuch connexions.

The growth and fatal effects of an intercourſe with a bad woman, is thus finely deſcribed by Solomon, and will ſuperſede the neceſſity of our ſaying any thing farther on this ſubject.

" For at the window of my houſe, I looked " through my caſement, and beheld among the " ſimple ones; I diſcerned among the youths a " young man void of underſtanding, paſſing through " the ſtreet near her corner; and he went the way " to her houſe, in the twilight, in the black and " dark night; and behold there met him a woman " with the attire of an harlot, and ſubtil of heart. " (She is loud and ſtubborn; her feet abide not in " her houſe; now ſhe is without, now in the " ſtreets, and lieth in wait at every corner.) So " ſhe caught him, and kiſſed him, and with an " impudent face ſaid unto him, I have peace-offer- " ings with me; this day have I payed my vows. " Therefore came I forth to meet thee, diligently " to ſeek thy face, and I have found thee. I have " decked my bed with coverings of tapeſtry, with " carved works, with fine linen of Egypt. I have " perfumed my bed with myrrh, aloes, and cin- " namon. Come let us take our fill of love until " the morning; let us ſolace ourſelves with love. " With her much fair ſpeech ſhe cauſed him to " yield; with the flattery of her lips ſhe forced " him. He goeth after her ſtraitway, as an ox to " the

" the ſlaughter, or as a fool to the correction of
" the ſtocks; till a dart ſtrike through his liver
" as a bird haſteneth to the ſnare, and knoweth
" not that it is FOR HIS LIFE. Hearken unto me
" now therefore, O ye children, and attend to the
" words of my mouth. Let not thine heart *incline*
" *to her ways*; go not aſtray *in her paths!*"

The caſe of JOHN EVERETT, who was hanged for Privately Stealing.

THIS offender was a native of Hertford, in which town he ſerved his apprenticeſhip to a baker. The young men in the neighbourhood declined aſſociating with him, and held him in univerſal abhorrence, ſo ungracious were his manners, and ſo ſtrong was his propenſity to wickedneſs.

Upon the expiration of his apprenticeſhip he connected himſelf with a gang of notorious gamblers, and other diſſolute wretches, in conjunction with whom he perpetrated a great number of villanies, but for ſeveral years eſcaped the vengeance of the law.

By perſuaſions and the promiſe of a ſum of money, Everett, and a man named Wright, induced a young woman to exhibit a charge of felony againſt two innocent men, who were put on their trial, but happily acquitted, as the perjured evidence was not able to authenticate her accuſation. In revenge for their failing to ſupply the girl with the money they had promiſed, ſhe lodged an information againſt Everett and Wright, who were in conſequence

quence indicted for ſubornation of perjury, and ſentenced to ſtand on the pillory at the end of Chancery-lane, where they received very ſevere treatment from the populace.

Soon after the above puniſhment had been inflicted, Everett was tried at Hicks's-hall, and ſentenced again to ſtand on the pillory for having fraudulently obtained a thirty-ſix-ſhilling piece. He was afterwards convicted of having circulated counterfeit Portugal coin, and ordered to be impriſoned two years in Newgate.

Soon after Everett's trial, a company of gentlemen went to Newgate to viſit a criminal, and in a ſhort time they diſcovered that they had been robbed of their handkerchiefs. The circumſtance being mentioned to Everett, he pretended to be much ſurprized, and intimated that there was but little probability of the property being recovered. However, in a little time he produced the handkerchiefs, and received ſome money from the gentlemen, as a reward for his ſuppoſed honeſty.

While he remained in Newgate he picked the pocket of almoſt every perſon who came to viſit the priſoners; he was continually uttering the moſt reprobate ſpeeches; and ſeemed to delight in the practice of every ſpecies of wickedneſs. Upon the expiration of the time he was ſentenced to remain in priſon, he found ſureties for his good behaviour for two years, and was diſcharged.

Having ſtopped a young gentleman in Fleet-ſtreet, he was aſked, if a robbery was intended; upon which he knocked the gentleman down, but a large dog belonging to the injured party immediately ſeized the villain, who with great difficulty diſengaged himſelf juſt time enough to eſcape being ſecured by the watch.

Everett, and a woman of the town, went to a ſmall inn at Hoddeſden in Hertfordſhire, which was kept by an ancient widow, and being invited into a room behind the bar, after having each drunk a glaſs of wine, the widow and her female gueſt went to walk in the garden; and in the mean time Everett broke open a bureau, and ſtole ſixty pounds in caſh, and ſeveral gold rings. They kept the widow in converſation till the time of going to bed, in order to divert her from going to the bureau; and the next morning decamped with their booty.

They took the road to Nottingham, whence they croſſed the country to Newmarket, and then returned to London. Everett's numerous villanies had rendered his name ſo notorious that he was fearful of being apprehended; and therefore he went under the denomiation of George Anderſon, and lived in a very private manner till the money he had ſo wickedly obtained was expended.

He now procured a knife eighteen inches long, and determined to levy contributions on paſſengers on the highway. In the road between Kentiſh town and Hampſtead, he attempted to rob a countryman, who being of an intrepid temper, a deſperate conteſt enſued, in which Everett proved the conqueror, and dangerouſly wounded his antagoniſt, from whom he, however, obtained but a ſmall booty.

The ſame evening he ſtole a quantity of ribbons from a haberdaſher's ſhop, but he was immediately purſued, and ſoon apprehended and ſecured in priſon.

Everett was brought to trial at the enſuing ſeſſions; and the proſecutor having laid the indictment capitally, he was convicted and ſentenced to be hanged.

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For ſome time after conviction he behaved in a decent manner, and appeared to be reſigned to the fate that awaited him: but upon learning that the order for his execution was received by the gaoler, he became perfectly outrageous, violently threatening thoſe who were near him, and uttering the moſt blaſphemous expreſſions. A report being circulated that he meditated a deſign againſt the life of the gaoler, his cell was carefully ſearched, but no ſuſpicious inſtruments were found.

Whether he really harboured the deſign of murdering the keeper is a matter of doubt. He denounced a vengeance againſt the man who gave the information, declaring, with horrid imprecations, that if he could procure a piſtol, or any other offenſive weapon, he would put him to death. He applied the moſt opprobrious epithets to the keeper of the priſon; and ſuch ungovernable outrage was there in his whole behaviour, and ſuch ſhocking blaſphemy in his expreſſions, that it was judged neceſſary to chain him down to the floor.

His behaviour was more decent and compoſed on the day preceding that of his execution; but he did not appear to be conſcious of the enormity of his guilt, or to be earneſt in repentance.

He joined in prayer with the ordinary of Newgate at the place of execution, but declined addreſſing the populace, and a little time before being turned off, ſaid he conſidered death as too ſevere a puniſhment for the crime he had committed.

On the 31ſt of December, 1750, this offender was executed at Tyburn.

Everett's propenſity to wickedneſs was apparent in his earlieſt years; and though he found himſelf univerſally deſpiſed by all who were not abandoned like himſelf, he neglected to effect a reformation

mation in his manners, whereby he might have removed all prejudices againſt him, and have become a reſpectable member of the community. He had lived without regard either to religious or moral obligations: but the utmoſt diſtraction of mind was occaſioned by the upbraidings of a guilty conſcience, and the terrible approach of death. The miſerable ſituation of this man, exhibits a ſtriking proof of the juſtice with which Shakeſpeare has put the following lines into the mouth of a man oppreſſed with guilt:

———————Pray I cannot,
" Though inclination be as ſharp as 'twill;
" My ſtronger guilt defeats my ſtrong intent;
" And like a man to double buſineſs bound,
" I ſtand in pauſe where I ſhall firſt begin,
" And both neglect.
" —O wretched ſtate! O boſom black as death!
" O limed ſoul, that ſtruggling to get free,
" Art more engaged!"

The Caſe of WILLIAM BAKER, who was executed for forging an Eaſt-India Warrant.

THE ſubject of this narrative was born in Cannon-ſtreet, where his father kept a baker's-ſhop, and lived in good reputation. The youth was educated at Merchant Taylor's ſchool, and at the uſual age bound apprentice to a grocer in a conſiderable way of buſineſs; and he proved ſo faithful and diligent a ſervant, that ſoon after the

the time of his apprenticeſhip had expired, his maſter admitted him an equal partner in his trade.

Having carried on the grocery trade for about ſeven years, he declined that buſineſs, and connected himſelf in partnerſhip with Mr. Carter, a ſugar-baker; and by this new undertaking, he flattered himſelf in the expectation of ſpeedily acquiring a fortune.

About the period of his commencing ſugar-baker, he married one of his couſins, who was the daughter of a clergyman in Northamptonſhire; and with her he received a handſome fortune.

For ſeveral years he fulfilled all his engagements with the greateſt punctuality, and was ſuppoſed to be poſſeſſed of conſiderable property.

He attended the ſales of the Eaſt-India company's goods, and frequently purchaſed very large quantities of teas, and he had extenſive dealings in other articles. He often ſuſtained conſiderable loſs by the ſale of his goods; and his circumſtances, at length, became ſo embarraſſed that he was under apprehenſion that a commiſſion of bankruptcy would iſſue againſt him.

He flattered himſelf, however, that, if he could ſupport his credit for a ſhort time, matters would take a more favourable turn, and his circumſtances be retrieved. His anxiety to avoid a bankruptcy, induced Mr. Baker to forge an Eaſt-India warrant for goods to the amount of nine hundred and twenty-two pounds. But it muſt be remarked, that the forgery was not committed with any intention to defraud, but merely to raiſe a ſupply for preſent exigencies.

Mr. Baker paſſed the counterfeit warrant into the hands of Mr. Holland, who ſent it to the India-houſe, where the forgery was detected, and Baker was in conſequence apprehended.

Baker

Baker being put on his trial at the Old Bailey, ſeveral gentlemen of reputation appeared in his behalf, and ſpoke to his character in the moſt favourable terms: but both the forgery and the uttering the counterfeit warrant having been proved againſt him by indiſputable teſtimony, and ſtrongly corroborating circumſtances, he of courſe was condemned to ſuffer death.

Mr. Baker's behaviour, while under ſentence of death, was perfectly conſiſtent with his unfortunate ſituation. Being conveyed to Tyburn in a mourning coach, he appeared to be in a compoſed ſtate of mind, and entirely reſigned to his fate; and after employing ſome time in fervent prayer, he ſuffered the dreadful ſentence of the law.

The unfortunate Mr. Baker was executed on the 31ſt of December 1750.

When Mr. Baker forged the warrant, he was in expectation of ſpeedy remittances, on the receipt of which his deſign was unqueſtionably to take up the counterfeit inſtrument. Therefore we ſhould compaſſionate him as an imprudent, rather than condemn him as a wicked man.

The man who ſtrictly adheres to the principles of honeſty, may rely that no change in his circumſtances, however unfavourable, can injure his character. Convinced of his integrity, his creditors will be ſatisfied with the reſidue of his effects, and after the ſettlement of his affairs, they will readily trade with him on the terms that were uſual before he was known to be inſolvent.

To be incapable of fulfilling our engagements in trade, we muſt allow to be a ſituation exceedingly diſtreſſing: but at the ſame time it ſhould be conſidered, that infamy is almoſt the certain conſequence of tranſgreſſing the law, and that poverty

may be cheared by hope, and conſoled by conſcious rectitude of intention, while the horrors of guilt admit of no alleviation, and terminate only with the departing breath.

Account of NORMAN ROSS, executed at Edinburgh, for the Murder of Mrs. HUME.

ROSS was deſcended from reputable parents at Inverneſs in the North of Scotland, who gave him a good education, and intended that he ſhould be brought up in a merchant's counting-houſe; but before he had completed his fifteenth year his father and mother died, leaving Norman and ſeveral other children wholly unprovided for.

Norman made application for employment to ſeveral merchants, but though he was well qualified for buſineſs, his propoſals were rejected, becauſe he could not raiſe the ſum uſually given upon entering into a merchant's ſervice as an articled clerk.

Thus ſituated he engaged himſelf as a footman to a widow lady of fortune, who, on account of having been acquainted with his parents, behaved to him with ſingular kindneſs. The lady had a ſon, who was then a military officer in Flanders; and the campaign there being concluded, the young gentleman returned to his native country to viſit his mother, and tranſact ſome buſineſs particularly relating to himſelf.

Obſerving Roſs to poſſeſs many qualifications not uſual to perſons in his ſituation, he propoſed taking him abroad in the capacity of valet-de-chambre; and the old lady acquieſced in her ſon's deſire.

Roſs continued in the officer's ſervice for the ſpace of about five years; during which period he behaved with the utmoſt diligence and fidelity. The regiment being broke on the concluſion of the peace of Aix la Chapelle, the officer ſet out on the tour of France and Italy, and Roſs returned to Scotland for the benefit of his native air.

Soon after his return to Scotland he recovered his health, and ſet out in order to pay his reſpects to his former miſtreſs, but learning that ſhe had been dead about three weeks, he repaired to Edinburgh, where he was hired as a footman by an attorney at law. Having contracted an intimacy with a number of livery ſervants, he was ſeduced by their example to the practices of ſwearing, gaming, drinking, and other vices: and he was diſmiſſed from his ſervice on account of the irregularity of his conduct.

Roſs now became footman to Mrs. Hume, a widow lady of great fortune, and remarkable piety.

In the winter ſhe reſided at Edinburgh, and in the ſummer at a village called Ayton, about four miles from the town of Berwick upon Tweed. About four months after he had been hired by Mrs. Hume, the lady removed to her houſe at Ayton; and ſome time after a female ſervant in the family, with whom he had maintained a criminal intercourſe, was brought to bed; and it therefore became neceſſary for him to ſupply her with money for the ſupport of herſelf and the infant.

He continued to provide her with the means of ſubſiſtence from the month of April till Auguſt, by borrowing money of his fellow-ſervants, and other perſons with whom he was acquainted.

The woman, at length, becoming exceedingly importunate, and his reſources being wholly exhauſted,

hauſted, he was driven nearly to a ſtate of diſtraction, and in that diſpoſition of mind, formed the fatal reſolution of robbing his miſtreſs.

Mrs. Hume ſlept on the firſt floor, in an apartment behind the dining-room, and being unapprehenſive of danger, her bed chamber door was ſeldom locked; and with this circumſtance Roſs was well acquainted, as well as that ſhe uſually put the keys of her bureau, and the other places where her valuable effects were depoſited, under her pillow.

He determined to carry his execrable deſign into execution on a Sunday night; and waiting in his bed-room, without undreſſing himſelf, till he judged the family to be aſleep, he deſcended, and leaving his ſhoes in the paſſage, proceeded to his lady's bed-chamber. Endeavouring to get poſſeſſion of the keys, the lady was diſturbed, and being dreadfully alarmed, called for aſſiſtance; but the reſt of the family laying at a diſtant part of the houſe, her ſcreams were not heard. Roſs immediately ſeized a claſp knife that lay on the table, and cut his miſtreſs's throat in a moſt dreadful manner. This horrid act was no ſooner perpetrated, than, without waiting to put on his ſhoes, or to ſecure either money or other effects, he leaped out of the window; and after travelling ſeveral miles, concealed himſelf in a field of corn.

In the morning the gardener diſcovered a livery-hat, which the murderer had dropped in deſcending from the window, and ſuſpecting that ſomething extraordinary had happened, he alarmed his fellow-ſervants.

The diſturbance in the houſe brought the two daughters of Mrs. Hume down ſtairs; but no words can expreſs the conſternation and horror of

the young ladies, upon beholding their indulgent parent weltering in her blood, and the fatal inſtrument of death laying on the floor.

Roſs being abſent, and his ſhoes and hat being found, it was concluded that he muſt have committed the barbarous deed: and the butler therefore mounted a horſe, and alarmed the country, leſt the murderous villain ſhould eſcape. The butler was ſoon joined by great numbers of horſemen, and on the concluſion of the day, when both men and horſes were nearly exhauſted through exceſſive fatigue, the murderer was diſcovered in a field of ſtanding corn. His hands being tied behind him, he was taken to an adjacent public-houſe, and on the following morning he was conducted before a magiſtrate of Edinburgh, who committed him to priſon.

On the trial of this offender, he had the effrontry to declare that his miſtreſs uſually admitted him to her bed, and that it was his conſtant practice to leave his ſhoes at the dining-room door. He ſaid, that upon entering the chamber he perceived the lady murdered, and leaped through the window in order to diſcover who had perpetrated the barbarous deed; adding, that having loſt his hat he did not chuſe to return till evening, and therefore concealed himſelf among the corn. He was ſeverely reprimanded by the court for aggravating his guilt by aſperſing the character of a woman of remarkable virtue and piety, whom he had cruelly deprived of life.

The law of Scotland bears an affinity to that of the Romans. It inveſts the judges with power to puniſh criminals in ſuch manner as they may deem to be proportioned to their offences. This privilege was exerciſed in the caſe of Roſs, whoſe crime

crime having been attended with many aggravating circumſtances, he was ſentenced to have his right hand chopped off, then to be hanged till dead, the body to be hung in chains, and the right hand to be affixed at the top of the gibbet with the knife made uſe of in the commiſſion of the murder.

Upon receiving ſentence of death he began ſeriouſly to reflect on his miſerable ſituation, and the next day requeſted the attendance of Mr. James Craig, one of the miniſters of Edinburgh, to whom he confeſſed his guilt; declaring that there was no foundation for his reflections againſt the chaſtity of the deceaſed.

Six weeks elapſed between the time of his trial and that of his execution, during which he was viſited once every day by Mr. Craig. He ſhewed every ſign of the moſt ſincere penitence; and refuſed to accompany two priſoners who broke out of gaol, ſaying he had no deſire to recover his liberty, but on the contrary would chearfully ſubmit to the utmoſt ſeverity of puniſhment, that he might make ſome atonement for his wickedneſs.

The day appointed for putting the ſentence of the law into force being arrived, Roſs walked to the place of execution, holding Mr. Craig by the arm. Having addreſſed a pathetic ſpeech to the populace, and prayed ſome time with great fervency of devotion, the rope was put round his neck, and the other end of it being thrown over the gallows, it was taken hold of by four chimney-ſweepers *. The criminal now laid his right hand

* The chimney-ſweepers of Edinburgh are obliged to aſſiſt the executioner whenever they are required.

upon

upon a block, and it was ſtruck off by the executioner at two blows; immediately after which the chimney-ſweepers by pulling the rope raiſed him from the ground; when he felt the rope drawing tight, by a convulſive motion he ſtruck the bloody wriſt againſt his cheek, which gave him an appearance too ghaſtly to admit of deſcription. The body was put into chains, and hung upon a gibbet, the hand being placed over the head with the knife ſtuck through it.

This offender was executed at Edinburgh on the 8th of January 1751.

But little is neceſſary to be ſaid on the caſe of this man, ſo obvious are the reflections that will occur to every reader. When he had committed the murder, ſuch was the horror of his mind that he had not power to effect the robbery, which was his original deſign, or even to go the door of the outward room for his ſhoes, though they were eſſentially neceſſary to his flight.

To deprive a fellow-creature of exiſtence, in, perhaps, an unprepared hour, is a crime of ſuch magnitude as to be, of all others, the moſt ſhocking to humanity, and ſuch as we can ſcarcely ſuppoſe will leave the perpetrator thereof even the moſt diſtant hope of divine mercy.

Particulars relating to RICHARD BUTLER, executed for Forgery.

THIS malefactor was born at Turlus in the county of Tipperary in the kingdom of Ireland; and his father, who was a reputable farmer, bound

bound him apprentice to a baker in Waterford. He proved ſo faithful and diligent a ſervant, that he was held in univerſal eſteem; and, upon the expiration of his apprenticeſhip, his father gave him a hundred pounds, for the purpoſe of eſtabliſhing him in buſineſs.

The above ſum enabled him to open a ſhop in Waterford, where he had a favourable proſpect of ſucceſs: but, inſtead of attending to his buſineſs, he frequented horſe-races, cock-fightings, and other gaming meetings, and engaged in a variety of expences greatly beyond what his income could afford: the conſequence of which was, that in about ſix months his affairs were in a moſt embarraſſed ſituation.

Being unable to continue his buſineſs, he returned to Turlus, where he formed a great number of infamous ſtratagems for extorting money from his relations; and they threatened, that unleſs he quitted that part of the country, they would cauſe him to be apprehended, and proceed againſt him with the utmoſt rigour of the law.

Butler applied to a clergyman at Turlus, repreſenting his caſe in a plauſible manner, and ſupplicating that he would uſe his intereſt with his father to prevail upon him to grant twenty pounds in addition to his former favours. The worthy divine pleaded in behalf of the young man, and with the deſired ſucceſs. Upon delivering the money, the reverend gentleman exhorted him to apply it to a proper uſe; which he promiſed to do, adding that he would immediately depart for Cork, and not return to the place of his nativity till, by an unremitting perſeverence in a ſyſtem of integrity, he had made attonement for all the errors of his conduct.

On

On his arrival at Cork he procured employment as a journeyman; and in that capacity he was ſo induſtrious and ſtrictly œconomical, that in a ſhort time he made ſuch addition to his ſtock that he was able to open a ſhop on his own account. He was much encouraged, and his circumſtances were ſuppoſed to be more flouriſhing than they were in reality.

Coming into poſſeſſion of a handſome ſum of money by marrying the widow of a cuſtom-houſe officer, who lived in the neighbourhood, Butler took a tavern of a conſiderable buſineſs, where his circumſtances would have been conſiderably improved but for his connexions with maritime people, to whom he gave unlimited credit, and was under the neceſſity of taking ſmuggled goods in payment, or loſing his money.

An information being lodged againſt him for having ſmuggled goods in his poſſeſſion, his effects were ſeized for the uſe of the crown, and he was under the neceſſity of quitting Ireland.

Butler and his wife took ſhipping for Plymouth, and in that town they hired a houſe, which they lett in lodgings to ſea-faring people. In about three years he was obliged to quit Plymouth, and repaired to the metropolis, in a very diſtreſſed condition.

He had not been long in London before the grief conſequent on the various ſcenes of diſtreſs ſhe had paſſed through produced the death of his wife.

Butler being now in very diſtreſſed circumſtances, he communicated his caſe to ſome of his countrymen; and he yielded to their perſuaſions for acquiring a livelihood by forging ſeamens wills.

Butler, Horne, and a woman named Catherine Gannon, went to the navy office to enquire what wages

wages were due to Thomas Williamſon, a foremaſt man belonging to the Namure, and learnt that the ſum was about eight and thirty pounds. They then made application to a proctor, the woman producing a forged will, and declaring herſelf to be the widow of Williamſon. They were deſired to call the next day, when a probate would be granted.

Butler and his female accomplice attended according to the appointment: but the proctor having, in the mean time, ſearched the offices, found that the will in queſtion was oppoſed by four caveats; and having further reaſon to ſuſpect an intended fraud, he cauſed them to be apprehended. Being taken before the lord mayor, Gannon acknowledged that ſhe had received a few ſhillings from Butler and Horne, who had promiſed to make the ſum up five pounds, on condition of her ſwearing herſelf to be the widow of Thomas Williamſon. Butler was committed to Newgate; and Gannon and Horne were admitted evidences for the crown.

At the enſuing ſeſſions at the Old Bailey Butler was tried and ſentenced to die. While under ſentence of death he regularly attended prayers in the chapel, and employed a great part of his time in private devotions agreeable to the doctrines of the proteſtant faith. At the place of execution he prayed with great fervency of zeal, acknowledged the juſtice of his ſentence, and after addreſſing the populace, was turned off.

The above malefactor was executed at Tyburn on the 10th of February, 1751.

There is no ſpecies of forgery ſo liable to detection as that of wills; for before the validity of a will can be eſtabliſhed, it muſt paſs through ſo many

offices, and undergo ſuch ſtrict ſcrutiny, that a fraud of this nature can but very rarely happen.

Butler had very favourable proſpects in the early part of life: but unhappily he was attached to idleneſs and diſſipation, whence aroſe his future misfortunes. The caſe of this man ſhews the danger that muſt neceſſarily attend young tradeſmen who engage in expences that the profits of their buſineſs cannot afford. Indolence, became ſo habitual to him by indulgence, that after leaving the tavern he could not collect ſufficient reſolution to apply himſelf to honeſt induſtry for the means of ſupport.

Let it be remembered, that though the law may fail to take effect, there is an internal monitor whoſe ſevere upbraidings will not permit an interval of happineſs to the man whoſe heart is contaminated with guilt.

Particular Narrative of the Life and very extraordinary Tranſactions of WILLIAM PARSONS, Eſq; who was hanged for returning from Tranſportation.

THE ſubject of this narrative was the ſon of ſir William Parſons, baronet, of the county of Nottingham. He was born in London in the year 1717 He was placed under the care of a pious and learned divine at Pepper-Harrow in Surry, where he received the firſt rudiments of education. In a little more than three years he was removed to Eton College, where it was intended that he ſhould qualify himſelf for one of the univerſities.

While

While he was a ſcholar at Eton he was detected in ſtealing a volume of Pope's Homer in the ſhop of a bookſeller named Pote. Being charged with the fact, he confeſſed that he had ſtolen many other books at different times. The caſe being repreſented to the maſter, Parſons underwent a very ſevere diſcipline.

Though he remained at Eton nine years, his progreſs in learning was very inconſiderable. The youth was of ſo unpromiſing a diſpoſition, that ſir William determined to ſend him to ſea, as the moſt probable means to prevent his deſtruction, and ſoon procured him to be appointed midſhipman on board a man of war, then lying at Spithead under ſailing orders for Jamaica, there to be ſtationed for three years.

Some accident detaining the ſhip beyond the time when it was expected ſhe would ſail, Parſons applied for leave of abſence, and went on ſhore: but having no intention to return he immediately directed his courſe towards a ſmall town about ten miles from Portſmouth called Biſhop's Waltham, where he ſoon ingratiated himſelf into the favour of the principal inhabitants.

His figure being pleaſing, and his manner of addreſs eaſy and polite, he found but little difficulty in recommending himſelf to the ladies. He became greatly enamoured of a beautiful and accompliſhed young lady, the daughter of a phyſician of conſiderable practice, and prevailed upon her to promiſe ſhe would yield her hand in marriage. News of the intended marriage coming to the knowledge of Parſons's friends, his uncle haſtened to Waltham, to prevent a union which he apprehended would inevitably produce the ruin of the contracting parties.

With much difficulty the uncle prevailed upon Parſons to return to the ſhip, which in a few days afterwards proceeded on her voyage. The ſhip had not been long arrived at the place of deſtination, when Parſons reſolved to deſert, and return to England, and ſoon found an opportunity of ſhipping himſelf on board the Sheerneſs man of war, then preparing to ſail on her return home.

Immediately upon his arrival in England, he ſet out for Waltham, in order to viſit the object of his deſires: but his uncle, being apprized of his motions, repaired to the ſame place, and repreſented his character in ſo unfavourable, but at the ſame time in ſo juſt, a manner, as prevented the renewal of his addreſſes to the phyſician's daughter.

He went home with his uncle, who obſerved his conduct with a moſt ſcrupulous attention, and confined him as much as poſſible within doors. This generous relation at length exerted his intereſt to get the youth appointed midſhipman on board his majeſty's ſhip the Romney, which was ordered on the Newfoundland ſtation.

Upon his return from Newfoundland, Parſons learnt, with infinite mortification, that the dutcheſs of Northumberland, to whom he was related, had revoked a will made in his favour, and bequeathed to his ſiſter a very conſiderable legacy which he had expected to enjoy. He was repulſed by his friends and acquaintances, who would not in the leaſt countenance his viſits at their houſes; and his circumſtances now became exceedingly diſtreſſed.

Thus ſituated, he applied to a gentleman named Bailey, with whom he had formerly lived on terms of intimacy; and his humanity induced him to invite Parſons to reſide in his houſe, and to furniſh him with the means of ſupporting the character of a gentleman.

gentleman. Mr. Bailey alſo was indefatigable in his endeavours to effect a reconciliation between young Parſons and his father, in which he at length ſucceeded.

Sir William having prevailed upon his ſon to go abroad again, and procured him an appointment under the governor of James Fort, on the river Gambia, he embarked on board a veſſel in the ſervice of the Royal African company.

Parſons had reſided at James Fort about ſix months, when a diſagreement took place between him and governor Auſleur; in conſequence of which the former ſignified a reſolution of returning to England. Hereupon the governor informed him that he was commiſſioned to engage him as an indented ſervant for five years. Parſons warmly expoſtulated with the governor, declaring that his behaviour was neither that of a man of probity or a gentleman, and requeſting permiſſion to return. But ſo far from complying, the governor iſſued orders to the centinels to be particularly careful leſt he ſhould effect an eſcape.

Notwithſtanding every precaution, Parſons found means to get on board a homeward bound veſſel and being followed by Mr. Auſleur he was commanded to return: but cocking a piſtol, and preſenting it to the governor, he declared he would fire upon any man who ſhould preſume to moleſt him. Hereupon the governor departed, and in a ſhort time the ſhip ſailed for England.

Soon after his arrival in his native country he received an invitation to viſit an uncle who lived at Epſom, which he gladly accepted, and experienced a moſt cordial and friendly reception. He reſided with his uncle about three months, and was treated with all imaginable kindneſs and reſpect. At length

length one of the female ſervants in the family ſwore herſelf to be pregnant by him; which circumſtance ſo incenſed the old gentleman, that he diſmiſſed Parſons from his houſe.

Reduced to the moſt deplorable ſtate of poverty, he directed his courſe towards the metropolis; and three halfpence being his whole ſtock of money, he ſubſiſted four days upon the bread purchaſed with that ſmall ſum, quenching his thirſt at the pumps he caſually met with in the ſtreets. He lay four nights in a hay-loft in Chancery-lane, belonging to the Maſter of the Rolls, by permiſſion of the coachman, who pitied his truly deplorable caſe.

At length he determined to apply for redreſs to an ancient gentlewoman, with whom he had been acquainted in his more youthful days, when ſhe was in the capacity of companion to the dutcheſs of Northumberland. Weak and emaciated through want of food, his appearance was rendered ſtill more miſerable by the uncleanlineſs and diſorder of his apparel: and when he appeared before the old lady, ſhe tenderly compaſſionated his unfortunate ſituation, and recommended him to a decent family in Cambridge-ſtreet, with whom he reſided ſome time in a very comfortable manner, the old gentlewoman defraying the charge of his lodging and board; and a humane gentleman, to whom ſhe had communicated his caſe, ſupplying him with money for common expences.

Sir William came to town at the beginning of the winter, and received an unexpected viſit from his ſon, who dropped upon his knees, and ſupplicated forgiveneſs with the utmoſt humility and reſpect. His mother-in-law was greatly enraged at his appearance, and upbraided her huſband with being fooliſhly indulgent to ſo graceleſs a youth,

at

at the ſame time declaring, that ſhe would not live in the houſe where he was permitted to enter.

Sir William aſked him what mode of life he meant to adopt; and his anſwer was, that he was unable to determine, but would chearfully purſue ſuch meaſures as ſo indulgent a parent ſhould think proper to recommend. The old gentleman then adviſed him to enter as a private man in the horſe-guards, which he approved of, ſaying he would immediately offer himſelf as a volunteer.

Upon mentioning his intention to the adjutant, he was informed, that he muſt pay ſeventy guineas for his admiſſion into the corps. This news proved exceedingly afflicting, as he had but little hope that his father would advance the neceſſary ſum. Upon returning to his father's lodgings, he learnt that he had ſet out for the country, and left him a preſent of only five ſhillings.

Driven now nearly to a ſtate of diſtraction, he formed the deſperate reſolution of putting an end to his life, and repaired to St. James's-park, intending to drown himſelf in Roſamond's pond. While he ſtood on the brink of the water, waiting for an opportunity of carrying his impious deſign into effect, it occurred to him, that a letter he had received, mentioning the death of an aunt, and that ſhe had bequeathed a legacy to his brother, might be made uſe of to his own advantage; and he immediately declined the thoughts of deſtroying himſelf.

He produced the letter to ſeveral perſons, aſſuring them that the writer had been miſinformed reſpecting the legacy, which in reality was left to himſelf. Under the pretext of being entitled to the above legacy, he obtained money and effects from different people to a conſiderable amount;

and

and among thoſe who were deceived by the above ſtratagem, was a taylor in Devereux-court in the Strand, who gave him credit for ſeveral genteel ſuits of cloaths.

The money and other articles thus fraudulently obtained, enabled him to engage in ſcenes of gaiety and diſſipation; and he ſeemed to entertain no idea that his happineſs would be of but ſhort duration.

Accidentally meeting the brother of the young lady to whom he had made profeſſions of love at Waltham, he intended to renew his acquaintance with him, and his addreſſes to his ſiſter: but the young gentleman informed Parſons that his ſiſter died ſuddenly a ſhort time after his departure from Waltham.

Parſons endeavoured as much as poſſible to cultivate the friendſhip of the above young gentleman, and repreſented his caſe in ſo plauſible a manner as to obtain money from him at different times to a conſiderable amount.

Parſons's creditors now became exceedingly importunate; and he thought there was no probability of relieving himſelf from his difficulties, but by connecting himſelf in marriage with a woman of fortune.

Being eminently qualified in thoſe accompliſhments which are known to have a great influence over the female world, Parſons ſoon ingratiated himſelf into the eſteem of a young lady, poſſeſſed of a handſome independency, bequeathed her by her lately deceaſed father. He informed his creditors, that he had a proſpect of an advantageous marriage; and as they were ſatisfied that the lady had a good fortune, they ſupplied him with every thing neceſſary for proſecuting the amour, being perſuaded that, if the expected union took place, they

they ſhould have no difficulty in recovering their reſpective demands.

The marriage was ſolemnized on the 10th of February 1740, in the 23d year of our hero's age. On occaſion of this event, the uncle, who lived at Epſom, viſited him in London, and gave him the ſtrongeſt aſſurances that he would exert every poſſible endeavour to promote his intereſt and happineſs, on condition that he would avoid ſuch proceedings as would render him unworthy of friendſhip and protection. His relations in general were perfectly ſatisfied with the connexion he had made, and hoped that his irregular and volatile diſpoſition would be corrected by the prudent conduct of his bride, who was juſtly eſteemed a young lady of great ſweetneſs of temper, virtue, and diſcretion.

A few weeks after his marriage, his uncle interceded in his behalf with the right honourable Arthur Onſlow; and through the intereſt of that gentleman he was appointed an enſign in the thirty-fourth regiment of foot.

He now diſcharged all his debts, which proved highly ſatisfactory to all his relations; and this conduct was the means of his obtaining further credit in times of future diſtreſs.

He hired a very handſome houſe in Poland-ſtreet, where he reſided two years, in which time he had two children, one of whom died very young. From Poland-ſtreet he moved to Panton-ſquare, and the utmoſt harmony ſubſiſted between him and his wife, who were much reſpected by their relations and acquaintances. But it muſt be obſerved, that though his conduct in other reſpects had been irreproachable from the time of his marriage, he was guilty of unpardonable indiſcretion as to the manner of his living; for he kept three ſaddle-horſes,

a chaiſe and pair, ſeveral unneceſſary ſervants, and engaged in many other ſuperfluous expences that his income could not afford.

Unfortunately Parſons became acquainted with an infamous gambler, who ſeduced him to frequent gaming-houſes, and to engage in play. He loſt conſiderable ſums, which were ſhared between the pretended friend of Parſons and his wicked accomplices.

Parſons was now promoted to a lieutenancy in a regiment that was ordered into Flanders, and he was accompanied to that country by the abandoned miſcreant, whom he conſidered as his moſt valuable friend. The money he loſt by gaming, and the extravagant manner in which he lived, in a ſhort time involved him in ſuch difficulties that he was under the neceſſity of ſelling his commiſſion, in order to diſcharge his debts contracted in Flanders. The commiſſion being ſold, Parſons and his treacherous companion returned to England.

His arrival was no ſooner known, than his creditors were extremely urgent for the immediate diſcharge of their reſpective claims; which induced him to take a private lodging in Gough-ſquare, where he paſſed under the denomination of captain Brown. He pretended to be an unmarried man; and ſaw his wife only when appointments were made to meet at a public-houſe. While he lodged in Gough-ſquare, he ſeduced his landlord's daughter, who became pregnant by him; and her imprudence in yielding to the perſuaſions of Parſons, proved the means of involving her in extreme diſtreſs.

His creditors having diſcovered the place of his retreat, he deemed it prudent to remove; and at this juncture an opportunity offered by which he hoped to retrieve his fortune; and he therefore embarked

embarked as captain of marines on board the Durſley privateer.

Soon after the arrival of the ſhip at Deal, Parſons went on ſhore, provided with piſtols, being determined not to ſubmit to an arreſt, which he ſuppoſed would be attempted. He had no ſooner landed on the beach than he was approached by five or ſix men, one of whom attempted to ſeize him; but Parſons, ſtepping aſide, diſcharged one of his piſtols, and lodged a ball in the man's thigh. He then ſaid he was well provided with weapons, and would fire upon them if they preſumed to give him further moleſtation. Hereupon the officers retreated; and Parſons returned to the ſhip, which ſailed from Deal the following morning.

They had been in the channel about a week when they made a prize of a French privateer, which they carried into the port of Cork. Parſons being now afflicted with a diſorder that prevailed among the French priſoners, was ſent on ſhore for the recovery of his health. During his illneſs the veſſel ſailed upon another cruize: and he was no ſooner in a condition to permit him to leave his apartment, than he became anxious to partake of the faſhionable amuſements.

In order to recruit his finances, which were nearly exhauſted, he drew bills of exchange on three merchants in London, on which he raiſed ſixty pounds; and before advice could be tranſmitted to Cork that he had no effects in the hands of the perſons on whom he had drawn the bills, he embarked on board a veſſel bound for England.

He landed at Plymouth, where he reſided ſome time, under a military character, to ſupport his claim to which he was provided with a counterfeit

commiſſion. He frequented all places of public reſort, and particularly thoſe where gaming was permitted. His money being nearly expended, he obtained a hundred pounds from a merchant of Plymouth, by means of a falſe draught upon an alderman of London. Some time after the diſcovery of the fraud, the injured party ſaw Parſons a tranſport priſoner on board a ſhip bound to Virginia, laying in Catwater bay, where he aſſured him of an entire forgiveneſs, and made him a preſent of a guinea.

From Plymouth Parſons repaired to London, and his money being nearly ſpent, he committed the following fraud in conjunction with a woman of the town: taking his accomplice to a tavern in the Strand (where he was known), he repreſented her as an heireſs, who had conſented to a private marriage, and requeſted the landlord to ſend immediately for a clergyman. The parſon being arrived, and about to begin the ceremony, Parſons pretended to recollect that he had forgot to provide a ring, and ordered the waiter to tell ſome ſhop-keeper in the neighbourhood to bring ſome plain gold rings. Upon this, the clergyman begged to recommend a very worthy man who kept a jeweller's ſhop in the neighbourhood: and Parſons ſaid it was a matter of indifference with whom he laid out his money; adding that, as he wiſhed to compliment his bride with ſome ſmall preſent, the tradeſman might alſo bring ſome diamond rings.

The rings being brought, and one of each choſen, Parſons produced a counterfeit draught, ſaying the jeweller might either give him change then, or call for payment after the ceremony; on which the jeweller retired, ſaying he would attend again in the afternoon. In a little time the woman formed

a pretence

a pretence for leaving the room, and upon her not returning ſoon, our hero affected great impatience, and, without taking his hat, quitted the apartment, ſaying he would enquire of the people in the houſe whether his bride was not detained by ſome accident.

After waiting a conſiderable time, the clergyman called the landlord, and as neither Parſons nor the woman could be found, it was rightly concluded that their whole intention was to perpetrate a fraud. In the mean time our hero and his accomplice met at an appointed place, and divided their booty.

Soon after the above tranſaction, Parſons intimated to a military officer that, on account of the many embarraſſments he was under, he was determined to join the rebel army, as the only expedient by which he could avoid being lodged in priſon. The gentleman repreſented the danger of engaging in ſuch an adventure, and, leſt his diſtreſs ſhould precipitate him to any raſh proceeding, generouſly ſupplied him with forty guineas to anſwer preſent exigences. He ſoon afterwards borrowed the above gentleman's horſe, pretending that he had occaſion to go a few miles into the country, on a matter of buſineſs: but he immediately rode to Smithfield, where he ſold the horſe at a very inadequate price.

That he might eſcape the reſentment of the gentleman whom he had treated in ſo unworthy a manner, he lodged an information againſt him, as being diſaffected to the government; in conſequence of which he was deprived of his commiſſion, and ſuffered an impriſonment of ſix months. He exhibited informations of a ſimilar nature againſt two other gentlemen, who had been moſt liberal bene-

factors to him, in revenge for refuſing any longer to ſupply him with the means of indulging his extravagant and profligate diſpoſition.

In the year 1745 he counterfeited a draught upon one of the collectors of the exciſe, in the name of the duke of Cumberland, for five hundred pounds. He carried the draught to the collector, who paid him fifty pounds in part, being all the caſh that remained in his hands.

He went to a taylor, ſaying he meant to employ him on the recommendation of a gentleman of the army whom he had long ſupplied with cloaths; adding that a captain's commiſſion was preparing for him at the war-office. The taylor furniſhed him with ſeveral ſuits of cloaths, but not being paid according to agreement, he entertained ſome ſuſpicion as to the reſponſibility of his new cuſtomer; and therefore enquired at the war-office reſpecting captain Brown, and learnt that a commiſſion was making out for a gentleman of that name. Unable to get any part of the money due to him, and determined to be no longer trifled with, he inſtituted a ſuit at common-law, but was non-ſuited, having laid his action in the fictitious name of Brown, and it appearing that Parſons was the defendant's real name.

Parſons ſent a porter from the Ram inn in Smithfield, with a counterfeit draught upon ſir Joſeph Hankey and Co. for five hundred pounds. Parſons followed the man, imagining that if he came out of ſir Joſeph's houſe alone he would have received the money, and that if he was accompanied by any perſon, it would be a ſtrong proof of the forgery being diſcovered; and upon obſerving ſir Joſeph and the porter get into a hackney coach, he reſolved not to return to the inn.

He

He next went to a widow named Bottomley, who lived near St. George's church, and, ſaying he had contracted to ſupply the regiment to which he belonged with hats, gave her an order to the amount of a hundred and ſixty pounds. He had no ſooner got poſſeſſion of the hats than he ſold them to a Jew for one half of the ſum he had agreed to pay for them.

Being ſtrongly apprehenſive that he could not long avoid being arreſted by ſome of his numerous and highly exaſperated creditors, by means of counterfeit letters he procured himſelf to be taken into cuſtody, as a perſon diſaffected to the king and government, and he was ſupported, without expence, in the houſe of one of the king's meſſengers for the ſpace of eighteen months.

Being releaſed from the meſſenger's houſe, he revolved in his mind a variety of ſchemes for eluding the importunity of his creditors; and, at length, determined to embark for Holland. He remained in Holland a few months: and when his money was nearly expended, he returned to England. A few days after his arrival in London, he went to a maſquerade, where he engaged in play to the hazard of every ſhilling he poſſeſſed, and was ſo fortunate as to obtain a ſum ſufficient for his maintenance for ſeveral months.

His circumſtances becoming again diſtreſſed, he wrote in preſſing terms to his brother-in-law, who was an Eaſt-India director, intreating that he would procure him a commiſſion in the company's ſervice, either by land or ſea. The purport of the anſwer was, that a gentleman in the Temple was authoriſed to give the ſupplicant a guinea, but that it would be fruitleſs for him to expect further favors.

Having

Having written a counterfeit draught, he went to Ranelaugh on a maſquerade night, where he paſſed the draught to a gentleman who had won ſome ſmall ſums of him. The party who received the draught, offered it for payment in a day or two afterwards, when it was proved to be a counterfeit; in conſequence of which Parſons was apprehended and committed to Wood-ſtreet compter. During his confinement he wrote the following letters:

To Sir William Parſons.

Wood-ſtreet Compter,

Honoured Sir, Aug. 17, 1748.

AFTER ſo profligate and infamous a life as I have led, I hardly dare to put pen to paper to intercede with you for forgiveneſs; but as by being ſincerely penitent of my many enormous crimes, which I am ſincerely from the bottom of my heart, I hope to obtain pardon of my Heavenly Father in the world to come; ſo, by the ſame repentance, I hope to obtain forgiveneſs of my terreſtrial parent (and my much-injured wife). Certain it is, I am undeſerving the minuteſt charity from any of my relations, and in a more eſpecial manner from you, whom I have ſo greatly and ſo often offended. Notwithſtanding my paſt miſ-ſpent life, your goodneſs is ſo manifeſt to me in the letter and ſupport you ſent me by Mr. B—, that, during the ſhort time the law allows me in this world (through a long and ſevere impriſonment) I ſhall, in the moſt grateful and humble manner, be truly thankful for your tenderneſs and compaſſion towards me.

I am, Sir,

(Though heretofore a profligate)

Now your ſincerely penitent,

And unhappy ſon,

WILLIAM PARSONS.

To

To Mrs. Parſons.

Wood-ſtreet Compter, Aug, 29, 1748.

HAD I but heretofore been as thoroughly ſenſible of my profligate and miſ-ſpent life as now, I need not have dated a letter to you from this diſmal place. The reflections which I now make on my paſt crimes make me in a manner diſtracted; and none diſturbs my peace of mind more, than the barbarities and unſpeakable injuries you have undeſervedly met with from me. I am, believe me, as ſincerely penitent for my ill-uſage towards you, and for my paſt enormous crimes, as it is poſſible for man to be; by which repentance I hope to obtain mercy in the world to come, and forgiveneſs from you. I was once eſteemed by you as a ſincerely affectionate huſband, and now beg you will look on me, during the ſhort time I have to live, to be, as I ſubſcribe myſelf,

Your ſincerely penitent huſband,
In deep affliction,
WILLIAM PARSONS.

As no proſecutor appeared, Parſons was neceſſarily acquitted: but a detainer being lodged, charging him with an offence ſimilar to the above, he was removed to Maidſtone gaol, in order for trial at the Lent aſſizes at Rocheſter.

Mr. Carey, the keeper of the priſon, treated Parſons with great humanity, allowing him to board in his family, and indulging him in every privilege that he could grant without a manifeſt breach of the duties of his office. But ſuch was the ingratitude of Parſons, that he meditated a plan, which,

had it taken effect, would have utterly ruined the man to whom he was indebted in ſuch great obligations. His intention was, privately to take the keys from Mr. Carey's apartment, and not only to eſcape himſelf, but even to give liberty to every priſoner in the gaol; and this ſcheme he communicated to a man accuſed of being a ſmuggler, who reported the matter to Mr. Carey, deſiring him to liſten at an appointed hour at night, when he would hear a converſation that would prove his intelligence to be authentic. Mr. Carey attended at the appointed time, and being convinced of the ingratitude and perfidy of Parſons, he abridged him of the indulgences he had before enjoyed, and cauſed him to be cloſely confined.

Being convicted at the aſſizes at Rocheſter, he was ſentenced to tranſportation for ſeven years. And in the following September, he was put on board the Thames, captain Dobbins, bound for Maryland, in company with upwards of an hundred and ſeventy other convicts, fifty of whom died in the voyage. In November 1749, Parſons was landed at Annapolis in Maryland: and having remained in a ſtate of ſlavery about ſeven weeks, a gentleman of conſiderable property and influence, who was not wholly unacquainted with his family, compaſſionating his unfortunate ſituation, obtained his freedom, and received him at his houſe in a moſt kind and hoſpitable manner.

Parſons had not been in the gentleman's family many days before he rode off with a horſe, which was lent him by his benefactor, and proceeded towards Virginia; on the borders of which country he ſtopped a gentleman on horſeback, and robbed him of five piſtoles, a moidore, and ten dollars.

A few

A few days after he ſtopped a lady and gentleman in a chaiſe, attended by a Negro ſervant, and robbed them of eleven guineas and ſome ſilver; after which he directed his courſe to Potomack river, where finding a ſhip nearly ready to ſail for England, he embarked, and after a paſſage of twenty-five days landed at Whitehaven.

He now produced a forged letter, in the name of one of his relations, to a capital merchant of Whitehaven, ſignifying that he was intitled to the family eſtate in conſequence of his father's deceaſe, and prevailed upon him to diſcount a falſe draught upon a banker in London for ſeventy-five pounds.

Upon his arrival in the metropolis, he hired a handſome lodging at the Weſt end of the town: but he almoſt conſtantly reſided in houſes of ill-fame, where the money he had ſo unjuſtifiably obtained was ſoon diſſipated.

Having hired a horſe, he rode to Hounſlow-heath, where, between ten and eleven o'clock at night, he ſtopped a poſt-chaiſe, in which were two gentlemen, whom he robbed of five guineas, ſome ſilver, and a watch.

A ſhort time afterwards he ſtopped a gentleman near Turnham-green, about twelve o'clock at night, and robbed him of thirty ſhillings and a gold ring. He requeſted that the ring might be returned, as he valued it, being his wife's wedding ring. Parſons complied with the gentleman's requeſt, and voluntarily teturned the gentleman five ſhillings, telling him, at the ſame time, that nothing but the moſt preſſing neceſſity could have urged him to the robbery: after which the gentleman ſhook hands with the robber, aſſuring him, that, on account of the civility of his behaviour, he would not appear to

profecute, if he ſhould hear of his being apprehended.

He attempted to rob a gentleman in a coach and four near Kenſington, but hearing ſome company on the road, he proceeded towards Hounſlow; and in his way thither overtook a farmer, and robbed him of between forty and fifty ſhillings. He then took the road to Colnbrook, and robbed a gentleman's ſervant of two guineas and a half, and a ſilver watch. After this he rode to Windſor, and returned to London by a different road.

His next expedition was on the Hounſlow road, and at the entrance of the heath he ſtopped two gentlemen, and robbed them of ſeven guineas, ſome ſilver, and a curiouſly wrought ſilver ſnuff-box.

Returning to his lodgings near Hyde-park-corner one evening, he overtook a footman in Piccadilly, and joining company with him, a familiar converſation took place, in the courſe of which Parſons learnt that the other was to ſet out early on the following Sunday with a portmanteau, containing caſh and notes to a conſiderable value, the property of his maſter, who was then at Windſor.

On the Sunday morning he rode towards Windſor, intending to rob the footman. Soon after he had paſſed Turnham Green, he overtook two gentlemen, one of whom was Mr. Fuller, who had proſecuted him at Rocheſter, and who, perfectly recollecting his perſon, warned him not to approach. However he paid no attention to what Mr. Fuller ſaid, but ſtill continued ſometimes behind and ſometimes before them, though at a very inconſiderable diſtance.

Upon coming into the town of Hounſlow the gentlemen alighted, and commanded Parſons to ſurrender,

ſurrender, adding that, if he did not inſtantly comply, they would alarm the town. He now diſmounted, and earneſtly entreated that the gentlemen would permit him to ſpeak to them in private, which they conſented to; and the parties being introduced to a room at an inn, Parſons ſurrendered his piſtols, which were loaded and primed, and ſupplicated for mercy in the moſt pathetic terms.

In all probability he would have been permitted to eſcape, had not Mr. Day, landlord of the Roſe and Crown at Hounſlow, come into the room, and adviſed that he might be detained, as he conceived him very nearly to anſwer the deſcription of a highwayman by whom the roads in that part of the country had been long infeſted. He was ſecured at the inn till the next day, and then examined by a magiſtrate, who committed him to Newgate.

The unhappy ſituation of Parſons gave riſe to the letters which follow.

PARSONS, *to Mr.* Fuller, *the Gentleman who apprehended him.*

Sir,

AN entire reliance on your goodneſs and humanity is the only apology I can make for this freedom; upon which preſumption I beg leave to addreſs you, and flatter myſelf, that when the unhappy becomes a ſuitor for mercy, any ſolicitation in ſuch extremity will be the readier diſpenſed with.

I preſume there is now no occaſion to acquaint you of my melancholy ſituation, and the unhappy conſequences attending it: you are the perſon, who has unluckily involved me in it, and from whom

whom I hope for mercy; though vain and preſumptuous my expectation, ſomething tells me it muſt come from you, or I am undone. As an alleviation of my crime, I beg leave to give you the moſt ſolemn aſſurance, that when I met you I had no other intention than to ſue for your favour; for I well knew the dreadful conſequence of appearing in your ſight, and therefore deſigned to caſt myſelf on your goodneſs, as on a gentleman, who would take no pleaſure in the deſtruction of any unfortunate man. It is now paſt; but far be it from me to accuſe you of injuſtice, who have ſo deſervedly brought me to this miſery. There is a certain over-ruling Providence that governs all our actions, and the Almighty has been pleaſed thus to execute his vengeance on an offender; ſuch am I; but withall, I hope, a ſincere penitent; —one who now ſees the error of his ways, and longs for a continuance of life to reform it; on other conditions I deſpiſe it: but, oh! when I conſider ſeriouſly of an hereafter, the proſpect amazes—I tremble and deſpair—I am loth to take leave of this world, till I am better prepared for a happy reception in the next. Surely the Almighty has not withdrawn his grace from me! if not, may not a bad man become good? Theſe are my hopes; that is my firm reliance. Granting this, is it not humanity, nay, infinite charity, to preſerve a life, ſought only for that end? Certainly it is, and God will reward the meritorious act. Dear Sir, I pray let theſe reflections have ſome influence on you; and for mercy, if you are obliged to proſecute me, intercede for my life to the court, when I am caſt. Your extenſive intereſt, character, and power, will have ſo much weight, that will in the higheſt degree induce them

to ſhew clemency. For an act of that abundant good-nature, words would be but poor to expreſs my joyful thanks; none but a compaſſionate breaſt can conceive the ſentiments of gratitude, that would ſpring from a heart ſo tenderly obliged; and, in the end, ſuch extreme humanity will lead to a virtue, which in this world muſt be its own reward, while it ſtill acquires new glories to carry to that celeſtial manſion, where the good and virtuous ſhall be crowned with eternal ſplendor by the Redeemer of man, the bright fountain of mercy and compaſſion. To whom, while he grants me breath, prayers ſhall be inceſſantly offered for your peſervation and happineſs, by,

Sir,

Your afflicted humble Servant,

WILLIAM PARSONS.

The world ſpeaks you humane and charitable; if, therefore, good-nature induces you to ſhew pity on me, I requeſt you'll pleaſe to importune that gentleman, who accompanied you, to ſecrecy. I am a perfect ſtranger to him; neither have I committed any baſe act ſince my return, to urge him or you to ſeverity; but if 'tis thought my crime is of that deep dye, that nothing leſs than blood muſt make atonement, may Heaven have mercy upon me!

To his Brother and Siſter.

My dear Brother and Siſter,

THAT after what is paſt I dare addreſs you, nothing but extreme affliction, and entire reliance on your goodneſs and humanity, compels me to: do not therefore be diſpleaſed, that an unhappy

unhappy wretch preſumes ſo far on your good-nature,—but with pity and charity behold me ſupplicating mercy; and may the Almighty give you ſuch a tenderneſs and meltingneſs of heart, that you may be deeply affected with my miſery and calamity! That I deſerve puniſhment for my offences to God, I acknowledge I have often provoked his indignation, and his juſtice has again overtaken me; a piece of great imprudence occaſioned my laſt misfortune, for inſtead of being elſewhere, purſuant to my ſentence, I was laſt Sunday unluckily met and apprehended by my former proſecutor (Mr. Fuller) who has made information of my returning from tranſportation, and thereupon committed me to this melancholy place, from whence I have ſcarce the leaſt hopes of releaſe, till my life anſwers for the dreadful conſequence. I accuſe him not of injuſtice, who has brought me to this miſery; ſo my bad fortune has ordained. There is a certain over-ruling Providence that governs all our actions, and the Almighty has been pleaſed thus to execute his vengeance on an offender; ſuch am I, but withall, I hope, a ſincere penitent—one who now ſees the error of his ways, and longs for a continuance of life to reform it.---For, oh! when I conſider ſeriouſly of an hereafter, the proſpect amazes me---I tremble and deſpair---I am loth to take leave of this world 'till I am better prepared for a happy reception in the next. Surely the Almighty has not withdrawn his grace from me! If not, may not a bad man become good? Theſe are my hopes; that is my firm reliance. Granting this, is it not humanity, nay, infinite charity, to preſerve a life ſought only for that end? Certainly it is, and God will reward the meritorious act.

Dear

Dear brother and ſiſter, I pray let theſe reflections have ſome influence on you, and for mercy's ſake (if not for your own ſake, to prevent the ſhame and diſgrace that muſt inevitably enſue, by my ignominy, on an innocent family) intercede for me, and uſe your beſt intereſt in my favour with Mr. Honeywood, whoſe deſerved character, as well as intereſt, is eſtabliſhed; and the world ſpeaks both he and Mr. Fuller humane and charitable. If you will be ſo good as to apply to him, it will be the effect of a truly good-natured diſpoſition, and for which you ſhall for ever have my moſt unfeigned thanks.—Poor return for an act of ſuch uncommon tenderneſs! But 'tis all I have left to give, or by which I can even hope to repay that, or the many other obligations you have conferred upon me. I believe you expect nothing elſe, for you delight in acts of ſuch humanity; and though you ſuffer loſs and inconvenience by it, though you ſacrifice part of your own eaſe, forego ſome inferior ſatisfaction, and abate ſomething in point of intereſt and fortune; yet I hope compaſſion (which I fear I do not merit) will prevail on you to over-rule all theſe conſiderations, and prompt you to aſſiſt a deſtitute, unhappy wretch, immerſed in the deepeſt misfortune, and in want of a charitable hand to raiſe him. I have thoughts on my trial to plead my guilt, and rely on the mercy of the court; then when I am caſt, and my poor life expiring, I ſhall wait for ſome merciful heart to ſue for pardon; though vain and preſumptuous my expectation, ſomething tells me it muſt be from you, or I am undone.

I can ſay no more; my heart is full of ſorrow and contrition: if it is the Almighty's will that I muſt die, I patiently ſubmit to my fate, and hope that repentance will in the end work out my ſalva-

tion.—May the Almighty ſhower down bleſſings on you and yours! may you be happy in this world! and may you enjoy perfect felicity in the next, ſuch as is prepared for the good and merciful! is the fervent prayer of

The loſt, undone,

Newgate. WILLIAM PARSONS.

To add to my misfortunes, I am without a penny to ſupport me, and threatened, for the want of what is not in my power to give, to be turned down to the common ſide of the gaol, among wretches who have no thought of God or their own ſalvation. I hope the Almighty will inſpire you with ſentiments of compaſſion towards me, and to that end induce you to remit me ſomewhat to ſuſtain life under ſuch melancholy and diſtreſſed circumſtances.

To a noble Earl.

My Lord,

CONSCIOUS ſhame for my paſt offences, and confuſion of thoughts in being thus conſtrained to trouble your lordſhip's goodneſs, and ſeek your protection, makes my mind a ſtate of anarchy, and that at a juncture when it ſhould be moſt compoſed, ſerene, and tranquil.

There is ſomething, my lord, uncommonly ſhocking in the ignominy of my approaching fate; and the apprehenſion of being expoſed a common ſpectacle of reproach and infamy, to an illiterate, ſenſeleſs mob, intimidates me beyond expreſſion, and diveſts my ſoul of every animating faculty.

In the very bloom of life, and the vigour of health and ſtrength, when my blood flows high in youth,

youth, and my nerves are yet unſtrung, to be hurried from earth into an unfathomable eternity, is dreadful! is tremendous! The reflection of my condeſcending to the commiſſion of ſuch enormous crimes, and flying in the face of equity, juſtice, moral honeſty, and moral conſcience, dyes my cheeks with crimſon ſtains, and ſwells my breaſt with ſighs. But, my lord, perfection is quite inconſiſtent with our nature; and, as a repentant offender is ſure to find mercy at the throne of grace, may we not hope for it from our Creator's vicegerent? Contrition and repentance are the only means left me of expiating my guilt; and if the moſt unfeigned ſorrow for my paſt crimes is any atonement, I may then hope for pity and pardon.

To a noble mind, my lord, nothing is ſo ſatisfactory, ſo gratefully pleaſing, as frequent opportunities of doing good, even though the unworthy objects of their favour are barren in return. And 'tis under ſanction of theſe flatulent hopes, that I (who have unhappily forfeited all claim to merit) now preſume to addreſs your lordſhip, and, proſtrate on my knees, ſupplicate your generous interpoſition, in favour of a wretched victim to offended juſtice, that you will endeavour to deprecate the wrath of offended majeſty, by ſhielding me from impending fate.

An inſupportable concuſſion of grief, ſhame, and ſorrow, almoſt buries my ſoul in a ſupine apathy, and drives me to melancholy; for where can I fly for ſuccour, or aſſiſtance? Where, but to your lordſhip's humanity, and illimitable compaſſion? Forgive me, then, my lord, this preſumption; and though my faults are atrocious, let chriſtianity excite your pity, and ſhelter me from death, from ſhame, from everlaſting infamy!

My afflictions, my lord, and the conſideration of my haſtening doom, create inexpreſſive grief, which choaks up expreſſion, and will ſcarce permit me to write; yet on my knees I once more crave your bounteous protection to ſave a life, whoſe every hour (ſhould he be ſo happy as to be ſpared) ſhall be ſpent in endeavouring to deſerve ſuch mercy, in unfeigned prayers for my generous preſerver, and ardent deſires of evincing how ſtrictly grateful I ſhall always ſtrive to approve myſelf,

My Lord,

Your Lordſhip's moſt devoted,

Moſt obedient, tho' moſt unhappy,

Newgate, Jan. 11, 1750-1. Humble ſervant,

WILLIAM PARSONS.

From Sir William Parſons *to a Friend.*

Oct. the 10th, 1750.

Dear Brewerton,

FROM the letter I received from my ſon, I was in hopes that he would have at laſt made a good uſe of that little time which I have been ſo ſucceſsful as to obtain for him, in order that he might be the better prepared for the other world, before he leaves this; but, inſtead of that, I have the unhappineſs to hear that he makes a very bad uſe of the ſhort ſeaſon that is moſt kindly allotted him for that purpoſe; and ſeems to look upon this ſhort reſpite as an earneſt of a reprieve, which I aſſure you gives me more concern than even the thoughts of that ſhameful death he muſt certainly ſuffer when the king returns. For the utmoſt favour I have been able to obtain of my friends

from

from the regency, is really no more than this; that ſo long as they continue regents, they will defer recalling him to his former ſentence, but as ſoon as the king returns, that muſt be; and then 'tis their firm opinion, that there will be no poſſibility of obtaining any farther favour, and that it will be to no manner of purpoſe to aſk it. I therefore moſt earneſtly deſire, that you will endeavour all you poſſibly can to convince him of this truth; for my peace of mind, and perhaps too his eternal ſalvation, depends on it. He muſt die ſoon after the king's return, ſo I hope none of his friends will be ſo fooliſhly compaſſionate, as to give him at this time any relief from the ſeverities of a dungeon, which are wiſely deſigned as a means to make ſuch as are in his circumſtances ſeriouſly reflect on their paſt conduct, and of that moſt terrible ſentence which in the other world will be paſſed upon ſuch as neglect to make a good uſe of that opportunity which is in mercy allotted them for their repentance in this. If you can get any truly pious clergyman, that does not commonly attend the gaols, that will have ſo much compaſſion for this poor ſoul, as to endeavour to bring him to a true ſenſe of his paſt offences, I ſhall moſt thankfully acknowledge the favour to him, after my ſon is no more. As for my forgiveneſs, if it will give him any ſatisfaction, you may aſſure him of it, and alſo of my hearty prayers for his repentance. I am ſo full with grief I can ſay no more, but that

I am,

Dear Brewerton,

Moſt ſincerely yours,

W. PARSONS.

Parſons

Parſons *to his Father, after reading the preceding.*

London, Oct. 23, 1750.

Honoured Sir,

YOURS of the 10th current to Mr. Brewerton has reached me, the contents of which I have duly noted, and beg your acceptance of my ſincere thanks for your kind forgiveneſs, which, in my preſent ſituation, affords me real ſatisfaction. However flagrant have been my follies, yet 'tis more than cruel for any malevolent perſon to endeavour, by baſe aſperſions, and ſcandalous miſrepreſentations, to alienate your affection for an unhappy ſon, who, in his preſent penurious circumſtances, rather needs an increaſe of parental love; and I could wiſh, Sir, that you would rather baniſh credulity, than cheriſh that vulture, which will ever prey upon your peace.

There are ſome people of ſuch a baneful, malignant diſpoſition, as to be always uneaſy, unleſs they are ſowing the ſeeds of ſedition, and raiſing feuds and animoſities: theſe Egyptian plagues are the worſt of evils, and I ſhould be extremely ſorry to find, that you would ſooner credit the licentious tongue of calumny, than the aſſertions of one in my calamitous condition. Here miſery reigns in all its dreadful ſplendor, and nothing is to be ſeen but a moſt hideous night-piece. The athletic is hurried into the tomb in the prime of his age; and juſtice, offended juſtice, with a ſtern ſeverity, demands the victim; yet how gloomy is the proſpect, how diſmal the ſcene which diſplays this evil, followed by a more tremendous group, care, pain, malady, hunger, nakedneſs, and cold! Conſider,

Sir,

Sir, this ſhocking, yet too ſimilar portrait; and let nature (kind mother) plead in behalf of an offending ſon! With conſcious ſhame I own my follies: but can nothing atone for them but life? are my faults inexpiable? and have the cruel ſiſters decreed to cut my thread? muſt I be cropt, like a juſt opening flower, ere I have taſted the ſun's enlivening heat? can nothing mitigate my offence? and is my fate irreverſible?

I would, Sir, that you ſhould maintain thoſe favourable ſentiments of me, you ſay my laſt influenced you to cheriſh; I hope the ligatures of nature are not entirely broke, and that you will condeſcend to alleviate in ſome meaſure the pungent miſeries I now endure. If you call the humanity of any friend, who relieves my diſtreſs by trivial ſuccour, a fooliſh compaſſion, I am very ſorry; and though the ſeverities of a dungeon may be deſigned (wiſely) to awaken criminals to a due ſenſe of their offences, and the thoughts of future exiſtence; yet, if people ſhould begin to diveſt themſelves of humanity, and the common ties eſſential to the well-ordering of the world, and the harmony of mankind, ſuch ſcenes of diſtreſs would rather damp the ſpirits, and plunge us in deſpair, or elſe be motives to atheiſm, and even prevail on men to believe no ſuperintendent and all-ſufficient power to preſide over the affairs of the world; and conſequently to think of a ſtate of annihilation. From theſe conſiderations, I hope it will evidently appear, that my thoughts are not ſo volatile and unſteady, as ſome would endeavour to make you believe; nor ſhould we always judge of men or things by outward appearances; we ſhould maturely weigh, and conſider the undue media through which men's actions may appear to us, and ſuſpend our deci-

ſion

ſion 'till we have made a more ſtrict and accurate ſearch into them, nor peremptorily determine, till we have examined into the ſecret ſprings and motives of their proceedings.

However readily we may allow that moſt men are in maſquerade, and veil their deeds, however black they are, under the ſpecious cloak of friendſhip; yet no one is more difficult to unravel than the ſchemes of a ſeaſoned villain, couched beneath the diſguiſe of unbiaſſed amity; but could we, as Horace ſays,

" Detrahere et pellem, nitidus quâ quiſque per ora
" Cederet;"—

how hideous would he appear to an honeſt mind! and how deſpicable muſt that man be, whoſe being or ſupport is founded on the ruin of others, nay, perhaps, his inviolable friends!

That any of my acquaintance have buoyed me up with imaginary hopes of a reprieve, is falſe and groundleſs, ſince I am ſenſible they cannot anſwer for the king's determination; yet am ſorry to find by your letter that I muſt inevitably die. 'Tis a tremendous expreſſion, more when aggravated by ſuch ſhocking appendages as ſeem to await my doom; yet " who ſhall circumſcribe the thea-
" tre, upon which an omnipotent goodneſs may
" think proper to diſplay itſelf? who ſhall preſume
" to ſet bounds to infinite power, actuated by in-
" finite benevolence!" May not I then dare to hope, without being criminal, and yet endeavour to fit myſelf for a fatal exit? You urge me, Sir, with ſome reluctance to argue on a theme not altogether the moſt agreeable in nature; yet hope my wretched circumſtances will at leaſt influence you to ſend me ſome relief in my extreme diſtreſs, aſſuring you

I have

I have ſcarce a ſufficiency to ſupport life; and indeed my preſent condition makes it an irkſome load.

The ties of blood, I hope, will prove a ſufficient apology for this requeſt, and excite your compaſſion and aſſiſtance, aſſuring you my preſent exigencies make it almoſt miſery to be born: enable me then by kind ſuccour to drag out this *tædium vitæ* in a manner leſs burthenſome than it now is, and by a generous paternal addreſs, ſhelter me from the inclemencies of cold, and the terrible attacks of hunger; and as you have vouchſafed me pardon, ſtretch out the hand of humanity to eaſe my ſorrows. I would proceed, but grief prevents my labouring thoughts, and choaks expreſſion; yet permit me to aſſure you I remain,

Honoured Sir,
Your moſt affectionate,
Dutiful and contrite Son,
WILLIAM PARSONS.

Sir William Parſons *to his Son.*

I HAVE uſed my utmoſt endeavours with a noble duke, who is greatly my friend, in order to ſave your life; but as I find that is impoſſible, I think it my duty (however diſtracting it is for me to write on this ſubject) to let you know it immediately, that you may not deceive yourſelf with the hopes of life, but inſtantly endeavour to make the beſt uſe of the ſhort time which is allotted you in this world, in order to prepare for that which is eternal. I need not write my name, for you know the hand

Of your even yet affectionate.

Jan. the 23d.

Anſwer.

Honoured Sir,

YOURS of the 23d current reached me yeſterday, the contents of which I have very ſeriouſly conſidered; and though nameleſs, yet the characters are too well known to be ignorant from what kind hand it came. Believe me, Sir, unfeignedly thankful for your humane endeavours to ſave my life, which is ſtill a greater and more unmerited mark of your paternal regard; but, as I really do not flatter myſelf with hopes of its prolongation, endeavour all I am able to fit myſelf (I hope) for an awful, yet happy eternity.

" Qui pœnitet peccaſſe, pœnâ eſt innocens.

He who ſins and repents, is free from puniſhment, is a maxim which has long been cheriſhed, and in ſuch caſe I may dare to hope, that, through the mediatorial ſacrifice of a bleſſed redeemer, I ſhall meet forgiveneſs at the throne of mercy. He aſſures us, that a willing mind is always accepted; and as I am perſuaded I muſt appear at the judgment-ſeat of Chriſt, ſo through expiatory contrition I hope to receive ample pardon; for " who " ſhall preſume to ſet bounds to infinite power, " actuated by infinite benevolence? who ſhall cir- " cumſcribe the theatre upon which an omnipotent " goodneſs may think proper to diſplay itſelf? " 'Tis impoſſible that finite minds can compre- " hend the power of infinity; how then can omni- " potence come within the ſcope of their juriſ- " diction?"

I am thoroughly convinced of my errors, and heartily ſorry for my paſt miſconduct; however, my preſent ſufferings are ſufficient puniſhment, I hope,

hope, to expugn my guilt. If, as I am willing to think, your wonted affection ſtill continues, I dare believe in my ſituation you would not willingly enhance my afflictions by ány aggravating circumſtance, or retroſpect upon my diſobedience.

My mind, I confeſs, is much more tranquil ſince your kind pardon and reconciliation than before; and though I am indeed no ways anxious after life for the bare ſake of living, yet it would have been greatly ſatisfactory to have been furniſhed with opportunities of making you amends for the uneaſineſs and concern I have given you, by an utter deteſtation and abhorrence of paſt follies, and a ſtrict adherence to duty, ſobriety, and virtue.

I am too conſcious that I fall a juſt victim to the offended laws of my country, and the abuſed clemency of a merciful prince; and as I die in chriſtian charity with all men, ſo I hope the major part of mankind will be humane enough to bury my faults, and not by unjuſt and ungenerous reproaches ſtain with infamy an unhappy family and particularly a guiltleſs ſon.

As, by your kind condeſcenſion in honouring me with a letter, I have reaſon to believe that the ties of nature are not quite diſſolved, ſo I hope you will not refuſe my laſt requeſt of an interview before I die, that on my knees I may receive the pardon and benediction of an offended, injured parent, and that my ſoul may take its flight on wings of joy to realms of bliſs and permanent felicity.

This, Sir, is the earneſt petition of one who, though unhappy, begs to be deemed,

Honoured Sir,

Your moſt dutiful

And affectionate Son,

WILLIAM PARSONS.

Parſons *to his Wife.*

Dear Madam,

I HAVE, with the utmoſt concern, received a letter without a name, intimating, that nothing is wanting towards a reconciliation, but a recantation of paſt aſperſions, and contrition for former faults. I confeſs myſelf guilty of the allegations laid to my charge; but if an unfeigned and ſincere ſorrow can make any atonement, believe I feel it in the ſtricteſt degree. Pardon is what I earneſtly and ardently requeſt: refuſe me not; nor yet this fervent prayer, that before my fatal day of diſſolution you will vouchſafe me the happineſs of a reconcilement, and to ſhare with an unhappy man the moſt holy and bleſſed ſacrament, with an interview with my dear injured, unfortunate ſon.

This, I hope, you will not deny, as it is the petition of him who, though wretched, and on the verge of life, begs to be accounted,

Dear Madam,

Your moſt affectionate Huſband,

WILLIAM PARSONS.

A ſecond Letter to his Wife.

Dear Madam,

" When ſouls that ſhould agree to will the ſame,
To have one common object for their wiſhes,
Look different ways, regardleſs of each other,
—What a train of wretchedneſs enſues!"

I have

I have too fatally experienced, and every ſucceeding day is an aggravation of my miſery. That I have injured you in the niceſt point I allow, with conſcious ſhame, and ſincere ſorrow; but as my preſent circumſtances are too diſmal to admit of any exaggerating ſcenes, and as I ſtand hovering on the verge of life, ready to launch into an unknown world, from whoſe bourne no traveller has ever returned, ſo I cannot think but your ſoul is too noble, at ſuch a criſis, to upbraid me for my paſt offences, or chide me for my breach of ſacred duty.

Conſider, madam, my preſent ſituation, and as your heart is woman, ſubject to the tenderer paſſions, and in whoſe breaſt is ſtrongly ſown the ſeeds of virtue, ſo (meretricious as I am) I cannot think but that love which gave you to my arms, will reaſſume its empire in your breaſt, and deem me at leaſt worthy your compaſſion. If, like ſome rude ſpoiler, I reaped your blooming charms, yet thoughtleſs flung thoſe charms away, unmindful of their worth; I rather merit pity than contempt for this my weakneſs. And though I own I have too juſtly incurred your reſentment, yet my heart-piercing miſeries, and agonizing ſorrows, might claim ſome ſhare of forgiveneſs, had I no other title; and though I did not rightly eſteem the value of that title, yet the tie is too ſacred ever to be diſſolved, and my image (I hope) too ſtrongly impreſſed on your mind to be eraſed.

When the ſun of my life is in its zenith, and I ſhould be expected to ſhine in meridian luſtre, behold me, like a fair opening flower, blaſted by a ſouthern wind. See me, in a ſhattered bark, ready to launch in a tempeſtuous ſea; no chart to guide, no compaſs to ſteer my courſe by, but left to the rough waves and howling winds,

till that I ſink beneath the dreadful ſtorm. How ſhocking is the proſpect! and what a diſmal night-piece is here!

This anticipation of my miſeries is ſtill enhanced by the cruel racking thoughts of never ſeeing you, nor my dear injured ſon; yet, perhaps, we may meet again, in realms of never-ending bliſs, no more to part. But ſhall we never meet here, and muſt I be denied in death the pleaſure of an interview, the ſweets of pardon from an injured wife, to chear my fainting ſoul? Time ſeems to tread with haſty ſtrides and new-fledged wings, and hurry me to my approaching fate. O fatal doom! To be the ſcorn of earth, is ſurely inſupportable. I, who (had reaſon ruled, and juſtice borne the ſway) might have been the comfort of my friends, the joy of all, am now ſtruck from the race of men, as one who never had being. Tormenting pain! How my ſoul ſhudders at the gloomy proſpect!

Thought drives on thought, and my mind is like a confuſed chaos; for, in my preſent condition, every reflection adds to my ſorrow, and I can ſcarce compoſe my mind to contemplation. But oh! that dread hereafter, that awful eternity, chills my blood, and fills my boſom with ten thouſand fears.

Believe me, madam, language is too faint to deſcribe the horrors of my ſituation, or the calamities I endure, ſince the ſofteſt ſcene is here ſufficient to melt the moſt obdurate heart, where miſery reigns in all her dread array! Allow me then, before I die, to beg to ſee you, that, though unworthy of your love, I may meet your pardon and pity; and, if it is poſſible, meet my ſummons with an untroubled mind.

Accept my hearty prayers for the preſervation and happineſs of you and my dear child, on whoſe head I hope

I hope reproaches for my faults will never fall; and ſince I cannot expreſs my real pain, allow me to conclude in the ſame terms I began my letter:

I have wrong'd thee much, and Heav'n has well
aveng'd it;
I have not, ſince we parted, been at peace,
Nor known one joy ſincere; our broken friendſhip
Purſued me to the laſt retreat of love,
Stood glaring like a ghoſt, and made me cold with
horror.
Misfortunes on misfortunes preſs upon me,
Swell o'er my head like waves, and daſh me down.
Sorrow, remorſe, and ſhame, have torn my ſoul,
They hang like winter on my youthful hopes,
And blaſt the ſpring and promiſe of my year.

I am, with unfeigned eſteem and love,
Dear Madam,
Your moſt affectionate
And unhappy Huſband,
WILLIAM PARSONS.

From Mrs. Parſons *to her Huſband.*

Mr. Parſons,

IF my advice may yet have any effect on you for your own good, I would not have you ſend my petition to the king. I ſhall, by to-morrow's poſt, write to your father, to deſire him to come up directly, which I don't doubt but on my requeſt he will, and then we ſhall prefer a proper one; and what can be done for you will be with the hopes that, if we ſhould ſucceed, your future life will atone for the paſt; if any thing ſhould happen to prevent his

his coming, I ſhall have a letter on Monday next, when you may depend upon hearing from me again, or on Tueſday without fail. I think you know me too well to doubt of my truth, or think I have any deſign to deceive you; but as all endeavours may prove vain, I deſire you will ſeriouſly think of dying; for, remember the ſame preparation that makes you fit to die, makes you fit to live; but I am ſorry to tell you, your firſt letter is a great deal too romantic, for one in your circumſtances. Mrs. Jenkins told me you did not know what particulars to anſwer to my note; I am ſure your own conſcience might inform you; however, I ſhall ſay no more, but conjure you to repent ſeriouſly of all your crimes, and don't deceive yourſelf by a falſe repentance, for though all means are tried, no one knows what the event may be; but, live or die, this you ought not to omit, which that you may not do, is the ſincere wiſh of

Monday Morn. *M. T. P.*

Parſons *in reply.*

Dear Madam,

YOURS of Monday I duly received, and am gratefully obliged to you for your kind intimations and advice; the which I ſhall ſtrenuouſly endeavour to obſerve. I hope my father will not refuſe my requeſt of an interview before death, nor you neither, ſince that will greatly add to my tranquillity. When I reflect on paſt inſtances, and the real injuries I have done you, I cannot think there was any thing romantic in my firſt letter; but even admitting there was, the ſuggeſtion which muſt ariſe from the conſideration of writing to a perſon,

perſon, to whom (unjuſtly) I had long been eſtranged; and the thoughts which you may naturally imagine aroſe therefrom, might, in ſome meaſure, flutter my ſpirits, and occaſion an incongruity, but romance none, ſince I only wrote the language of my heart.

Let my fate be as it may, 'tis my buſineſs now to prepare for futurity, which I aſſure you I do with all the ardour I am capable; and I hope your humanity will ſuperſede juſtice, and that you will forgive all paſt injuries, and by a kind condolance alleviate the pangs which reſult now from the miſerable ſituation of,

Dear Madam,

Your moſt affectionate,

Though unhappy Huſband,

WILLIAM PARSONS.

Another Letter to his Wife.

Dear Madam,

ALTHOUGH I can claim no title to demand ſuch a favour further than the ties of nature and the laws of God, yet I would fain flatter myſelf, bare humanity, did nothing elſe excite, will influence you to accede thereto; and, as I am ſenſible your influence with my father is great, beg your interceſſion with him to uſe his arduous endeavours to ſave my life.

In my preſent ſituation I can but promiſe and aſſert, performances being beyond my reach; but am fully perſuaded, that my future conduct and behaviour will be regulated in ſuch a manner, as to afford not only you, but alſo all my friends and acquaintance, the utmoſt ſatisfaction; and am convinced every generous breaſt that ſhall contribute

to ſuch bleſſing, as that of protracting my days, will be greatly pleaſed in being acceſſary to ſo happy an iſſue, and ſaving a life that may be ſerviceable to the community.

Pardon, madam, this *ipſe dixit* diſcourſe, nor think me vain, ſince what I write are the true ſentiments of my mind, and ſuch as (ſhall it pleaſe God to ſpare me) I ſhall always ſtrictly adhere to, and ſtrenuouſly endeavour to convince you how unfeignedly I am,

Dear Madam,

Your moſt affectionate Huſband,

WILLIAM PARSONS.

Mrs. Parſons *to her huſband, the Sunday preceeding his Execution.*

Mr. Parſons, Sunday Noon.

ACCORDING to my promiſe, I ſent yours incloſed to your father, and wrote to him in the manner I ſent you word; but have never had an anſwer, which I can attribute to nothing but the letter's miſcarrying, for I am ſure he has a ſincere concern and affection for you. I have done every thing in my power for you, but to no purpoſe. My aunt this day delivered a petition to the king, in your father's name and mine; what effect it may have, is very uncertain: ſhe met with impertinent uſage from the fellow and old woman, who would not have had her gone; they had the inſolence to ſay I deſired your death; had that been the caſe, I need not have given myſelf and others any trouble in this affair; as to them, I deſpiſe them, and can't think at this time you would be ſo baſe as to be concerned with them, or encourage their inſolence.

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Should this ſucceed, I hope your future life will make amends for ſo much mercy; but, as it is ſo uncertain, beg you will make a proper uſe of the few moments you have to live. As to your requeſt of ſeeing me, it could not be, for I could not bear the ſhock of ſeeing you in ſuch circumſtances. I freely forgive you all injuries whatever; and hope God will pardon all crimes, ſupport you in your laſt moments, and receive you to his mercy, which is the ſincere prayer and hope of her, who was always

Your faithful and affectionate Wife.

P. S. My grandmother and aunt pray for you: —I can ſay no more.

From a friend, delivered a few hours before Parſons *was taken from Newgate to the place of Execution.*

11th Feb. at 4 in the morning.

Dear Mr. Parſons,

THE abrupt manner in which you were hurried from me laſt night (even after a permiſſion had been granted to ſpend half an hour with you) prevented my proceeding in what I had begun ſeriouſly to tell you.

" That you made me ſhudder—(and may you " ſhudder as you reflect on it!) when you appealed " to the ordinary, then preſent, that you were " now eaſy, as you had been permitted to take a " final leave of the object of your affections, which " you added, he knew agitated your mind ſo much " at chapel (though you knew not why) that you " could not contain yourſelf: the agitations of your " countenance, which I perceived in you at cha-

" pel, I flattered myſelf, proceeded from a mind truly
" convinced of ſin, and ſincerely ſorrowing for the
" ſame: but oh! Sir, when in the evening I re-
" turned and found you parlying with the Dalilah
" of your heart, from whom you were in a few
" hours to be ſeparated, by the execution of a juſt
" ſentence, and who, added to the corruption of
" your own mind and morals, was doubtleſs one
" of the many cauſes that brought you into this
" earthly condemnation,—and muſt ſhock every ſe-
" rious mind, after the repeated moving exhortations,
" which the pious Mr. Gibbons had charitably given
" you (and which many of the poor ſouls now to
" ſuffer with you had not the comfort of), and after
" the ſeeming reſolutions which you had made of
" plucking out a right eye, and cutting off a right
" arm, that you might enter maimed, &c. into life
" eternal, rather than having two eyes and two arms,
" go down into Hell——But oh! Sir, how is it
" that you will treat thus with your Maker?—What!
" hug and careſs your ſins to the very laſt moment
" almoſt that the law permits you life; and ſtill
" boaſt of eaſe and ſerenity of mind, and expecta-
" tions of ſalvation through the merits of Chriſt,
" whom you are now willing, you ſay, to receive
" into your heart,—now that the law tears every idol
" from you:—But oh! Sir, God is not mocked,—
" he is a God of juſtice, as well as tender mercy;
" —may you tremble at the thought,—and may
" the thought ſo cauſe you to be wounded, as to
" melt you into tears of ſorrow and deep contri-
" tion.—Oh! cry bitterly unto him, whoſe mercy
" and forbearance you have ſo long provoked, for
" that ſorrow of heart, which he has promiſed, do
" not deſpiſe;—on theſe few moments depend eter-
" nity;—oh! that now in this late hour you might

" ſeek

" ſeek his face, before whoſe awful preſence you " muſt ſoon appear!—oh! that you had read and " laid to heart the account given of Mr. Maclaine, " whoſe caſe ought to have affected you, and copied " his dying example;—oh! that you may weep and " lament, having much to be forgiven.—The God " of Jacob I know to be more compaſſionate and " merciful than Jacob was, who refuſed to bleſs his " ſon Eſau (after that he had deſpiſed the bleſ- " ſing), though he ſought it with tears.—But do " you wreſtle with him for the bleſſing of pardon " and forgiveneſs,—and may he have mercy on " your poor ſoul, for Jeſus Chriſt's ſake! Amen " and Amen.—Time fails me to add more."

While Parſons remained in Newgate, his behaviour was ſuch that it could not be determined whether he entertained a proper idea of his dreadful ſituation. There is indeed but too much reaſon to fear that the hopes of a reprieve (in which he deceived himſelf even to the laſt moments of his life) induced him to neglect the neceſſary preparation for eternity.

His taking leave of his wife afforded a ſcene extremely affecting: he recommended to her parental protection his only child, and regretted that his miſconduct had put it in the power of a cenſorious world to reflect upon both the mother and ſon. At the place of execution he joined in the devotional exerciſes with a fervency of zeal that proved him to be convinced of the neceſſity of obtaining the pardon of his Creator.

William Parſons Eſq; was executed at Tyburn on the 11th of February, 1751.

When we conſider the numerous violations of the law committed by the above offender, it muſt appear aſtoniſhing that he ſo long eſcaped being made

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an object of condign puniſhment; and more eſpecially when it is recollected that, notwithſtanding the momentary danger of being apprehended, he frequented all places of public reſort. He muſt have been continually in a ſtate of moſt terrible anxiety; for he could ſcarcely imagine it poſſible to eſcape condemnation after being taken into cuſtody; ſince, had he not been convicted on the indictment for returning from tranſportation, other charges would have been exhibited againſt him, and ſupported by evidence that could not fail to affect his life.

It is ſtrange that Parſons, who had every means of happineſs in his own power, ſhould purſue ſuch iniquitous practices as he could not but be ſenſible muſt inevitably lead to diſgrace, miſery, and death. Hence may our readers learn, that too much attention cannot be employed to ſuppreſs early inclinations to vice, which, by indulgence, will grow into habits ſcarcely to admit of removal.

Narrative of the Tranſactions of THOMAS QUIN, JOSEPH DOWDELL, and THOMAS TALBOT, who were hanged for committing a Street-Robbery.

QUIN was a native of Dublin, the ſon of honeſt, but poor parents; and his father dying while he was a child, his uncle put him to ſchool, and afterwards placed him apprentice to a buckle-maker, with whom he ſerved three years faithfully; but his friends ſupplying him with cloaths too genteel for his rank in life, he began to aſſociate with gay company, and was guilty of many irregularities.

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Theſe thoughtleſs youths were frequently concerned in riots, and Quin was conſidered as the head of the party. In one of theſe nocturnal inſurrections Quin murdered a man, whoſe friends, watching him to his maſter's houſe, deſired that he might be delivered up to juſtice; but ſome of the journeymen ſallying forth, with offenſive weapons, drove off the people: but a warrant being iſſued for apprehending the murderer, his maſter adviſed him to depart for England.

A ſubſcription for his uſe being raiſed by his friends, he came to London, having recommendations * to ſome gentlemen of that city: but of theſe he made no uſe: for, frequenting the purlieus of St. Giles's, he ſpent his money among the loweſt of his countrymen, and then entered on board a man of war.

After a ſervice of ſix months, he quitted the ſhip at Leghorn, and ſailed in another veſſel to Jamaica, where he received his wages, which he ſoon ſpent. He now agreed to work his paſſage to England, and the ſhip arriving in the port of London, he took lodgings in St. Giles's, and ſoon afterwards became acquainted with Dowdell and Talbot, of whom we are now to give an account.

DOWDELL was the ſon of a bookbinder in Dublin, who, being in low circumſtances, was unable to educate his children as he could have wiſhed. The ſubject of this narrative, who was remarkable for the badneſs of his diſpoſition, was apprenticed to a breeches-maker, but grew tired of his place before he had ſerved two years.

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* It ſeems ſtrange that a youth charged with murder ſhould thus peaceably depart his native country; and ſtill more ſo, that he ſhould get good recommendations in England: but ſuch is the hiſtorical account of this fact.

Dowdell being ordered by his maſter to take proper care of a quantity of green leather, particularly to defend it from the ſnow; inſtead thereof he heaped ſuch quantities of ſnow and ice on it, that it was greatly reduced in value. This circumſtance ſo exaſperated his maſter, that he was glad to get rid of him by delivering up his indentures.

Thus at large, and the father ill able to ſupport him, he was recommended to the ſervice of a gentleman in the country, with whom he might have lived happily: but he behaved badly in his place, and, running away to Dublin, commenced pick-pocket.

After ſome practice in this way, he became connected with a gang of houſebreakers, in company with whom he committed ſeveral depredations in Dublin. Having broke open a gentleman's houſe, he was oppoſed by the ſervants, and effected his eſcape only by the uſe he made of a hanger; ſoon after which he was taken by the watchmen, and being carried before a magiſtrate, he was committed to priſon the next morning. His perſon was advertiſed, and he was brought to trial; but none of the ſervants being able to ſwear to him, he was acquitted, for want of evidence.

He now renewed his dangerous practices, and committed a variety of robberies. The following is one of the moſt ſingular of his exploits. Going to the houſe of a farmer near Dublin, he pretended to be a citizen who wanted a lodging for the benefit of his health, and he would pay a liberal price.

The unſuſpecting farmer put his lodger into the beſt chamber, and ſupplied his table in the moſt ample manner. After a reſidence of ten days he aſked the farmer's company to the town of Finglaſs, where he wanted to purchaſe ſome neceſſaries.

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The farmer attending him, Dowdell purchaſed ſome articles at different ſhops, till, ſeeing a quantity of gold in a till, he formed a reſolution of appropriating it to his own uſe.

Having returned home with the farmer, Dowdell pretended to recollect that he had omitted to purchaſe ſome medicines which he muſt take that night, and which had principally occaſioned his going to Finglaſs. Hereupon the farmer ordered a horſe to be ſaddled; and Dowdell ſet forwards, on a promiſe to return before night.

On his arrival at Finglaſs he put up his horſe, and ſtealing unperceived into the ſhop abovementioned, he ſtole the till with the money, and immediately ſet out for Dublin.

In the interim, the farmer, miſſing his lodger, went to Finglaſs, and not finding him there, proceeded to Dublin, where he chanced to put up his horſe at the ſame inn where Dowdell had taken up his quarters. In a ſhort time he ſaw our adventurer with ſome dealers, to whom he would have ſold the horſe; on which the farmer procured a conſtable, ſeized the offender, and lodged him in priſon.

For this preſumed robbery (a real one, doubtleſs, in the intention) he was brought to trial: but it appearing that the farmer had entruſted him with the horſe, he could be convicted of nothing more than a fraud, for which he received ſentence of tranſportation.

The veſſel in which he ſailed being overtaken by a ſtorm, was daſhed on the rocks of Cumberland, and many lives were loſt; but ſeveral, among whom was Dowdell, ſwam on ſhore, and went to Whitehaven, where the inhabitants contributed liberally to their relief.

Dowdell, travelling to Liverpool, entered on board a privateer, which ſoon took ſeveral prizes which were intended to have been carried to Ireland; but diſtreſs of weather driving them ſouthwards they made to the port of Liſbon, where the prizes were ſold, and Dowdell received ſixty pounds to his ſhare, which he ſoon ſquandered in the moſt thoughtleſs extravagance.

Being reduced to poverty, he committed a robbery on a Portugueſe gentleman, for which he was apprehended, but afterwards releaſed on the interceſſion of the gentlemen of the Engliſh factory; on which he ſailed in a man of war to England, and landed at Portſmouth, from whence he came to London.

He had not been long in the metropolis before he aſſociated with a gang of pick-pockets and ſtreet-robbers (among whom was one Carter), whoſe practice it was to commit depredations at the doors of the theatres. Dowdell had not long entered into this aſſociation, before he and Carter went under the piazzas in Covent Garden, where the latter demanded a gentleman's money, while Dowdell watched at a little diſtance, to give notice in caſe of a ſurprize. While Carter was examining the gentleman's pockets, he drew his ſword, and killed the robber on the ſpot; and a mob gathering at the inſtant, it was with great difficulty that Dowdell effected his eſcape.

He now went to the lodgings of a woman of ill fame, who having been heretofore kept by a man of rank, he had given her a gold watch and ſome trifling jewels, which Dowdell adviſed her to pawn, to raiſe him ready money.

The girl heſitating to comply, he beat her in a moſt violent manner; on which ſhe ſwore the peace

peace againſt him; whereupon he was lodged in Newgate; but diſcharged at the next ſeſſions, no proſecution being commenced againſt him.

He was no ſooner at large than he made a connexion with a woman of the town, whom an officer had taken to Gibraltar, and during her reſidence with him ſhe had ſaved a hundred moidores. Dowdell having poſſeſſed himſelf of this ſum, ſoon ſpent it extravagantly, and then prevailed on her to pawn her cloaths for his ſupport.

TALBOT was the ſon of poor parents who lived in Wapping; and having received a common education, he engaged himſelf as the driver of a poſt-chaiſe, in the ſervice of a ſtable-keeper in Piccadilly. While he was driving two gentlemen on the Bath road, a highwayman ſtopped the carriage, and robbed them of their watches and money.

This circumſtance gave Talbot an idea of acquiring money by illicit means: wherefore, on his return to London, he made himſelf acquainted with ſome highwaymen, aſſuring them that he was properly qualified to give them the intelligence neceſſary for the ſucceſsful management of their buſineſs.

His propoſal met with a ready acceptance; and a company having ſoon afterwards hired a coach and ſix of his maſter, to go to Bath, Talbot gave one of the highwayman notice of the affair; and it was reſolved that the robbery ſhould be committed on Hounſlow-heath.

The highwayman meeting the carriage on the appointed ſpot, robbed the parties of all they had; ſo that they were obliged to return to London for money before they could purſue their journey. Talbot's ſhare of this ill-gotten booty amounted to fifty pounds, which gave him ſuch

ſpirits, that he reſolved to purſue the ſame iniquitous mode of living.

In conſequence of this reſolution, Talbot informed the highwayman of ſome company going to Bath, and he attempted to rob them; but a gentleman in the carriage ſhot him dead on the ſpot.

Mortified at this accident which had befel his friend, Talbot no ſooner arrived in London, than he determined to reſign his employment, and commence robber on his own account; but previous to engaging in this buſineſs, he ſpent his ready money in the worſt company.

After ſeveral attempts to commit robberies, and having narrowly eſcaped the hands of juſtice, he grew ſick of his employment, and requeſted his former maſter to take him into his ſervice. This he declined; but in pity to his diſtreſs, recommended him to a nobleman, in whoſe family he was engaged *.

Talbot had been but a ſhort time in his new place, before he robbed the houſe of ſeveral articles of value, which he ſold to the Jews, to ſupply the extravagance of one of the maid-ſervants, with whom he had an amour.

This theft was not diſcovered at the time; but Talbot was ſoon diſcharged from his place, in conſequence of the badneſs of his temper, which rendered him inſupportable to his fellow-ſervants.

On his diſmiſſion he ſpent his ready money with the moſt abandoned company, and then commenc-

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* It will be proper to remark on this ill-judged tenderneſs by which a man is induced to recommend a ſervant to another, whom he will not employ himſelf. What is this but being an acceſſary to any future robbery the party recommended may commit?

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ing houſe-breaker, committed a variety of depredations in the neighbourhood of London: for one of which he was apprehended, and brought to trial at the Old Bailey, but acquitted for want of evidence.

On the very evening he was acquitted he ſtopped a carriage in Drury-lane, and robbed a gentleman of his money, which he ſoon ſpent among the moſt diſſolute of both ſexes: and within a week afterwards he broke into a houſe in Weſtminſter, where he obtained plate and caſh to a large amount, but was not apprehended for this offence.

In a few days he was taken into cuſtody for picking a gentleman's pocket, brought to trial at the Old Bailey, ſentenced to be tranſported for ſeven years, ſhipped to America, and ſold to ſlavery.

He had not been long in this ſituation when he embarked, at Boſton in New England, on board a privateer: but when at ſea, he entered into a conſpiracy with ſome of the ſailors, to murder the officers, and ſeize the veſſel: but the confederacy being diſcovered in time, a ſevere puniſhment was inflicted on Talbot and the other villains.

Talbot, quitting the privateer, ſailed to England in a man of war, and engaging with ſome ſtreet-robbers in London, was apprehended, convicted, and ſentenced to die: but he found intereſt to obtain a pardon on condition of tranſportation.

However, he had not been long abroad before he returned, in company with an abandoned woman, who had been tranſported at the ſame time; and this woman introduced him to the acquaintance of Quin and Dowdell, in company with whom he committed a conſiderable number of robberies.

Theſe accomplices robbed ſix coaches one evening, and obtained conſiderable plunder; but this being

being ſoon ſpent in extravagance, they at length embarked in a robbery which coſt them their lives.

Having made a connexion with one Cullen, they all joined in a ſtreet-robbery; and ſtopping a coach near Long Acre, robbed a gentleman of his watch and money.

Some people being informed of the affair, immediately purſued them; and Cullen, being taken into cuſtody, was admitted an evidence againſt his accomplices, who were apprehended on the following day.

Being brought to trial at the next ſeſſions at the Old Bailey, they received ſentence of death; but, after conviction, ſeemed as little ſenſible of the enormity of their crimes, as almoſt any offenders whoſe caſes we have had occaſion to record.

Dowdell and Quin were Roman Catholics; and Talbot refuſing to join in devotion with the ordinary of Newgate at the place of execution, we can ſay nothing of the diſpoſition of mind in which they left this world.

Theſe malefactors ſuffered at Tyburn on the 17th of June, 1751.

So many caſes have occurred in this work ſimilar to thoſe before us, that a particular remark on their caſe will be the leſs neceſſary: but the obvious, and general remark, will be always the ſame. Nothing can lead to happineſs but the purſuit of virtue; nothing totally diveſt us of it but an attachment to vice.

The ſingular caſe of WILLIAM CHANDLER, who was convicted of perjury.

THIS malefactor (and his crime was enormous) was born near Devizes in Wiltſhire, where his father poſſeſſed an eſtate of two hundred pounds a year.

Young Chandler, having received a liberal education, was articled to the clerk of the Goldſmith's company; but not agreeing with his maſter, he went to live with an attorney in Clement's inn, with whom he compleated his clerkſhip; but in the interim was married to a ſervant-girl in the family; but the marriage was kept a ſecret.

Soon after the expiration of his clerkſhip, he told his father he had a proſpect of marrying to great advantage; and about the ſame time repreſented to his maſter, that he had paid a viſit to his uncle, a man of fortune in Suffolk, who had preſented him with bank notes to a conſiderable amount; and he produced ſome notes, to give an air of truth to his ſtory.

Hereupon the father put into his poſſeſſion an eſtate worth about four hundred pounds. And as he repreſented to his maſter that he was worth five hundred in ready money, the maſter was prevailed on to lend him five hundred pounds (on ſecurity of his eſtate) which he ſaid he propoſed to advance with ſome other money to Mrs. Strait of Saliſbury, on an eſtate at Endford, which had been previouſly mortgaged to a gentleman named Poor, who wiſhed to re-poſſeſs himſelf of the money he had lent.

Thus prepared, he went to Mrs. Strait, on the 17th of March, 1748, and promiſed to meet her at

at Endford on the 25th, to advance her the requiſite ſum.

Having taken every previous ſtep for the accompliſhment of his plan, and being in poſſeſſion of about nine hundred pounds, he left London on the 24th of the month, and ſtopped at an inn at Hare-hatch, a few miles to the eaſtward of Reading.

His own account of the matter was, that being ſtopped ſoon afterwards by three bargemen, they robbed him of all his property, bound him, and threw him into a pit, having firſt threatened his deſtruction if he made any oppoſition. He ſaid that he continued in this condition three hours; but, notwithſtanding his bondage, he got a conſiderable way up a hill, where he met with a ſhepherd named Avery, who cut the cords with which he was tied. After obtaining his liberty, Chandler enquired of the ſhepherd for the conſtable of the hundred; and being conducted to him, he deſcribed the perſons who he ſaid had robbed him, and gave notice, in the legal forms, that he ſhould ſue the county to indemnify him for his loſs.

He deſcribed the ſuppoſed robbers with ſo much exactneſs, that a perſon preſent recollected to have ſeen three ſuch people; and the mayor of Reading, who was accidentally on the road, had a ſimilar recollection of the bargemen, whom he met near Maidenhead Thicket *.

Chandler now went to the inn at Hare-hatch, where he told a ſimilar tale; and having repoſed

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* Theſe circumſtances prove the villany of Chandler, who muſt have ſeen three ſuch men, and ſeems to have wanted to fix the ſuppoſed guilt on them, which, but for his detection, might have ended in a triple murder.

himſelf

himſelf for that night, returned to London on the following day; and told his late maſter (whoſe name was Hill) what he pretended had happened Mr. Hill gave him the numbers of ſome bank notes which he had advanced, and begged he would go to the Bank, and ſtop payment: inſtead of which he went to Cannon-ſtreet, and changed one of the notes, to pay for a ſilver tankard which he purchaſed.

This being done, he returned to Mr. Hill, and told him that no buſineſs was tranſacted at the Bank on that day; but ſaid he had left his numbers of the notes with one of the clerks; but the fact was that he had given in a falſe liſt.

His next ſtep was to advertiſe his ſuppoſed loſs in the daily papers, offering a reward of fifty pounds for the reſtoration of the whole, or a proportional one for any part of it. After this he inſerted a full account of the preſumed robbery in the London Gazette, with a deſcription of the robbers: but he did not mention the note he had paid away when he bought the tankard.

Mr. Hill attended him to a magiſtrate on the 12th of May, when he gave in the neceſſary information on oath, omitting only the numbers of the notes ſaid to be loſt.

Preparations were now made for the trial, which came on at Abingdon, before a ſpecial jury, on the 18th of July, and after a hearing of twelve hours, the jury retired for four more, and then gave a verdict in favour of the proſecutor: but the judge deſiring them to leave part of this verdict to the deciſion of the court of Common Pleas, their opinion was not given on it till the following winter.

Guilt is ever ſuſpicious. Chandler, fearing that a preſumption of his fraudulent practices would ariſe, told his maſter that he was going to live ſome time with an uncle in Suffolk; inſtead of which he went to an inn at Colcheſter, which was kept by his brother: but being neceſſitated to correſpond with his maſter, he wrote to him to direct to the Crown at Audley, near Colcheſter.

The term advancing, the maſter wrote repeatedly to him, urging him to come to London; but he evaded doing ſo, with ſuch frivolous excuſes, that a ſuſpicion even then aroſe that his conduct in the proſecution could not be juſtified.

In the interval twelve of the bank notes which Chandler had ſworn he was robbed of, were brought to the Bank for payment; but this being refuſed, and enquiry made, it appeared that a Jew, named Barnard Solomons, had bought them at Amſterdam, of a perſon who called himſelf John Smith; and that Barnard had ſent them to London, to his agent, Nathan Solomons.

Farther enquiry made it evident that the ſuppoſed John Smith had quitted Holland after a reſidence of only a few days, and then embarked in the packet with a Dutch merchant, named Caſſon. This gentleman being found, gave a deſcription of the preſumed Smith; which ſo exactly correſponded with the perſon of Chandler, that little doubt remained of the identity of the offender; on which his maſter re-urged him to come to London, and confront Mr. Caſſon; but he ſteadily perſiſted in declining to make his appearance.

In the interim the point of law was ſolemnly argued before the judges of the Common Pleas, when their determination was to the following effect: "that as Chandler had not inſerted the

"numbers

"numbers of his notes in the Gazette, nor ſworn "to them when he made oath before the juſtice, "the verdict muſt be ſet aſide, and the plaintiff "nonſuited, without the advantage of a new "trial."

About this time the falſe liſt of the numbers which he had given in at the Bank happening to be found, the public opinion began to be very unfavourable to him; and thoſe who had hitherto conſidered him as innocent, began to look on him in a light totally oppoſite.

It was now thought adviſeable to take Chandler into cuſtody; for which purpoſe three gentlemen went to the Crown at Audley, near Colcheſter, and enquired for a place called Eaton; where he was ſaid to have lived. They were directed to two places named Eaton; but, after a tedious journey without finding him, they went to the inn kept by his brother at Colcheſter, where Chandler happened to be at the time, but concealed himſelf in the houſe during a night which they remained there.

This ſearch after him alarmed him ſo much that he quitted Colcheſter, and went to Coventry, where he took an inn: but being fearful of an arreſt from Mr. Winter, a gentleman who had lent him a ſum of money, he ſent a draught in Winter's favour, for 150*l.* on Mr. Guantlet, a linen-draper.

The letter containing this draught being put into the poſt-office at Northampton, proved the means of diſcovering his reſidence at Coventry; in conſequence of which he was taken into cuſtody, and lodged in priſon.

In the year 1750 he was removed by a writ of Habeas Corpus from Coventry to Abingdon; and

every preparation was made for his trial; but he traverſed the indictment, and thereby put it off for that year.

At the next aſſizes he was tried, convicted, and received ſentence to be tranſported for ſeven years, after being ſet in the pillory on the day ſucceeding the conviction.

On the following morning, however, the ſheriff waited on the judge, to acquaint him that if the offender ſhould be impilloried, it would be impoſſible to protect him from the vengeance of the enraged populace; and therefore requeſted a mitigation of his ſentence.

In conſequence of this reaſonable requeſt, that part of the ſentence reſpecting his being put in the pillory was diſpenſed with; and the offender was tranſported, in conſequence of judgment paſſed on the 16th of July, 1751.

The offence of this malefactor was of ſo atrocious a nature, a guilt of ſo deep a dye, that there is ſcarce a poſſibility of finding terms in which to expreſs our abhorrence of it. He pretended a robbery which was never committed: he deſcribed three perſons who he declared were guilty of the fact; and it appeared that three ſuch perſons as he had deſcribed were ſeen on the road. His primary intention ſeems to have been to rob the county; but in the event it might have proved that the lives of three men might have been ſacrificed: for it cannot be ſuppoſed that, if theſe men had been apprehended and indicted, ſuch a villain as Chandler would have heſitated to ſwear that thoſe were the parties who robbed him.

Providence, however, decreed otherwiſe. A variety of circumſtances led to the detection of the villany, and the offender was puniſhed in the way pre-

preſcribed by the laws, though in no degree adequate to the enormity of his offence.

Thoſe who are better bred than the vulgar, and truſt to the ſuperiority of their faculties to procure money in a diſhonourable manner, ſhould learn from this ſtory, that there is no ſecurity in vice, and that ſchemes the moſt deeply laid, and moſt artfully contrived, may be as liable to detection as thoſe of apparent ſimplicity. In a word, there is no road to happineſs out of the line of virtue: nor can thoſe promiſe themſelves peace of mind, who deſpiſe the obligations of religion.

A particular Narrative of the uncommon Caſe of THOMAS COLLEY, who was hanged for Murder.

AS it is probable that the crime for which this man was executed was ſuch as never will be repeated in this country, we ſhall be the more particular in our account of it; hoping this narrative will remain as a record to poſterity, what fatal conſequences may reſult from unreaſonable prejudices, and idle ſuperſtition.

On the 18th of April, 1751, a man named Nichols went to William Dell, the cryer of Hemel-Hempſtead, in Hertfordſhire, and delivered to him a piece of paper, with four-pence, to cry the words which were written on the paper, a copy of which is as follows:

"This is to give notice, that, on Monday next, "a man and a woman are to be publicly ducked at "Tring, in this county, for their wicked crimes."

This

This notice was given at Winſlow and Leighton-Buzzard, as well as at Hemel-Hempſtead, on the reſpective market-days, and was heard by Mr. Barton, overſeer of the pariſh of Tring, who being informed that the perſons intended to be ducked were John Osborne, and Ruth his wife, and having no doubt of the good character of both the parties, he ſent them to the workhouſe, as a protection from the rage of the mob.

On the day appointed for the practice of the infernal ceremony, an immenſe number of people, ſuppoſed to be not fewer than five thouſand, aſſembled near the workhouſe at Tring, vowing revenge againſt Osborne and his wife, as a wizard and witch, and demanding that they ſhould be delivered up to their fury: they likewiſe pulled down a wall belonging to the workhouſe, and broke the windows and their frames.

On the preceding evening the maſter of the workhouſe, ſuſpecting ſome violence from what he had heard of the diſpoſition of the people, ſent Osborne and his wife to the veſtry-room belonging to the church, as a place the moſt likely to ſecure them from inſult.

The mob would not give credit to the maſter of the workhouſe that the parties were removed; but ruſhing into the houſe, ſearched it through, examining the cloſets, boxes, trunks, and even the ſalt-box, in ſearch of them. There being a hole in the ceiling which appeared to have been left by the plaiſterers, Colley, who was one of the moſt active of the gang, cried out, "Let us ſearch the "ceiling." This being done by Charles Young, with as little ſucceſs as before, they ſwore they would pull down the houſe, and ſet fire to the whole town of Tring, except Osborne and his wife were produced.

The

The maſter of the workhouſe, apprehenſive that they would carry their threats into execution, informed them where the poor people were concealed; on which the whole mob, with Colley at their head, went to the church, and brought them off in triumph.

This being done, the mob conducted them to a pond called Marſton-Mere, where the man and woman were ſeparately tied up in a cloth: then a rope was bound round the body of the woman, under her arm-pits, and two men dragged her into the pond, and through it ſeveral times; Colley going into the pond, and, with a ſtick, turning her from ſide to ſide.

Having ducked her repeatedly in this manner, they placed her by the ſide of the pond, and dragged the old man in, and ducked him: then he was put by, and the woman ducked again as before, Colley making the ſame uſe of his ſtick. With this cruelty the husband was treated twice over, and the wife three times; during the laſt of which the cloth in which ſhe was wrapped came off, and ſhe appeared quite naked.

Not ſatisfied with this barbarity, Colley puſhed his ſtick againſt her breaſt. The poor woman attempted to lay hold of it; but her ſtrength being now exhauſted, ſhe expired on the ſpot. Then Colley went round the pond, collecting money of the populace, for the ſport he had ſhewn them, in ducking the old witch, as he called her.

The mob now departed to their ſeveral habitations; and the body, being taken out of the pond, was examined by Mr. Foſter, a ſurgeon: and the coroner's inqueſt being ſummoned on the occaſion, Mr. Foſter depoſed, that "on examining the body "of the deceaſed, he found no wound, either in-

"ternal

" ternal or external, except a little place that had " the ſkin off, on one of her breaſts; and it was " his opinion that ſhe was ſuffocated with water " and mud."

Hereupon Colley was taken into cuſtody, and when his trial came on, Mr. Foſter depoſed to the ſame effect as abovementioned; and there being a variety of other ſtrong proof of the priſoner's guilt, he was convicted, and received ſentence of death: previous to which, however, he made the following defence: " I happened to be ſo unfortunate as to " be at Marlſton-Green, among other people, out " of curioſity to ſee what the mob would do with " John Osborne and his wife; where, ſeeing that " they uſed them very barbarouſly, I went into the " pond, as a friend, to ſave her if I could; for I " knew both very well, and never had any occa- " ſion to fall out with them, but bore them good- " will. As for the money I collected by the pond- " ſide, it was for the great pains I had taken in the " pond, to ſave both the man and the woman." This defence was artful enough; but as he brought no witneſſes to ſupport any part of it, the jury paid no regard to it.

After conviction this man ſeemed to behold his guilt in its true light of enormity. He became, as far as could be judged, ſincerely penitent for his ſins, and made good uſe of the ſhort time he had to live, in a ſolemn preparation for eternity. On the day before his execution he received the ſacra- ment, and then ſigned the following ſolemn decla- ration, which he requeſted might be diſperſed through the ſeveral towns and villages in the county.

" Good

" Good People,

" I beſeech you all to take warning by an un-
" happy man's ſuffering; that you be not deluded
" into ſo abſurd and wicked a conceit, as to believe
" that there are any ſuch beings upon earth as
" witches.

" It was that fooliſh and vain imagination,
" heightened and inflamed by the ſtrength of li-
" quor, which prompted me to be inſtrumental
" (with others as mad as myſelf) in the horrid and
" barbarous murder of Ruth Osborne, the ſuppoſed
" witch, for which I am now ſo deſervedly to ſuffer
" death.

" I am fully convinced of my former error, and,
" with the ſincerity of a dying man, declare that I
" do not believe there is ſuch a thing in being as a
" witch; and pray God, that none of you, through
" a contrary perſuaſion, may hereafter be induced
" to think that you have a right in any ſhape to
" perſecute, much leſs endanger the life of, a fel-
" low-creature. I beg of you all to pray to God
" to forgive me, and to waſh clean my polluted
" ſoul in the blood of Jeſus Chriſt, my Saviour and
" Redeemer.

" So exhorteth you all, the dying
" THOMAS COLLEY."

The day before his execution, he was removed from the gaol of Hertford, under the eſcort of a hundred men of the Oxford Blues, commanded by ſeven officers; and, being lodged in the gaol of St. Albans, was put into a chaiſe at 5 o'clock the next morning, with the hangman, and reached the place of execution about eleven, where his wife and daughter came to take leave of him; and the miniſter of Tring aſſiſted him in his laſt moments, when

he exhibited all the marks of unfeigned penitence, and devout contrition.

He was executed on the 24th of Auguſt, 1751, and afterwards hung in chains, at a place called Gubblecut, near where the offence was committed.

It is aſtoniſhing that any perſons can be ſo ſtupid as to believe in the ridiculous doctrine of witchcraft. How abſurd to ſuppoſe that the power of Heaven is delegated to a weak and frail mortal; and, of all mortals, to a poor decrepid old woman! for we never hear of a young witch, but through the faſcination of the eyes. Juſt when a woman has been poor and old enough to obtain the pity and compaſſion of every one; when nothing has remained to her but her innocence, her piety, and her tabby cat; then has ſhe, by the voice of ſuperſtition, been dignified with the preſumed poſſeſſion of a power which the God of Heaven alone could exert!

It is remarkable, in the ſtory before us, that the inſurgents, in ſearch of the preſumed witch and wizard, had recourſe to the ſalt-box. What a ſtrange madneſs of credulity muſt have inflamed their minds! The reflection of a moment would have told them, that, if the old folks had poſſeſſed power to have contracted themſelves within the compaſs of a ſalt-box, they would have been able to have diſappeared entirely; or even to have deſtroyed their perſecutors by a mere effort of the will.

Pity is it, for the honour of common ſenſe and true religion, and for the ſake of example throughout the kingdom, that others, as well as Colley, had not been puniſhed for this atrocious murder. As it is, however, his death has been of public ſervice. We have heard of no ducking of witches preſumptive ſince that time.

Thoſe

Thoſe who are acquainted with hiſtory will obſerve, that what would have been deemed meritorious in the reign of James the Firſt, became criminal in that of George the Second; thanks to the encreaſing good ſenſe, the knowledge, the learning, of the age!

The firſt-mentioned monarch wrote a book on the ſubject of witchcraft, which he called "Demono-"logia;" and the complaiſant parliament of his days paſſed a bill, to make it felony for any man or woman to be guilty of witchcraft: and in conſequence thereof many innocent perſons were murdered under the form of law: but this act was repealed by the wiſdom of later times.

Hence, however, we may learn the fatal conſequences of ſuperſtition: but the generous mind will reflect with pain, that of thoſe who have been puniſhed on charges of witchcraft, many of them have owed their ſufferings to the pedantic ſuperſtition of that FOOL of all PRINCES, that PRINCE of all FOOLS, KING JAMES the Firſt!

The ſingular Caſes of JAMES WELCH, and THOMAS JONES, who were hanged for Murder.

THOSE who have attentively read our account of the unfortunate Coleman, will recollect what preſumptive evidence there aroſe of his innocence; and the following narrative will make it evident that he *was* innocent.

About two years after Coleman's death, it was diſcovered that James Welch, Thomas Jones, and John Nichols, were the perſons who actually treated

Sarah Green in that inhuman manner which occaſioned her death. Theſe offenders had been acquainted from their childhood, and had kept the murder a ſecret, till it was diſcovered in the following manner.

Welch, and a young fellow named James Buſh, being walking on the road to Newington Butts, their converſation happened to turn on the ſubject of thoſe who had been executed without being guilty; and Welch ſaid, "Among whom was Cole-"man. Nichols, Jones, and I, were the perſons "who committed the murder for which he was "hanged." In the courſe of converſation Welch owned that, having been at a public-houſe called Sot's-Hole, they had drank plentifully, and on their return through Kennington lane, they met with a woman with whom they went as far as the parſonage-walk, near the church-yard of Newington, where ſhe was ſo horridly abuſed by Nichols and Jones, that Welch declined offering her any farther inſult.

Buſh did not at that time appear to pay any particular attention to what he heard: but ſoon afterwards, as he was croſſing London-bridge with his father, he addreſſed him as follows: "Father, I "have been extremely ill; and as I am afraid I "ſhall not live long, I ſhould be glad to diſcover "ſomething that lays heavy on my mind."

Hereupon they went to a public-houſe in the Borough, where Buſh related his ſtory to his father, which was ſcarce ended, when ſeeing Jones at the window, they called him in, and deſired him to drink with them.

He had not been long in company, when they told him they heard he was one of the murderers of Sarah Green, on whoſe account Coleman ſuffered death.

death. Jones trembled and turned pale on hearing what they ſaid; but ſoon aſſuming a degree of courage, ſaid, "What does it ſignify? The man is "hanged, and the woman dead, and nobody can "hurt us;" to which he added, "We were con-"nected with a woman, but who can tell that was "the woman Coleman died for?"

In conſequence of this acknowledgement, Nichols, Jones, and Welch, were ſoon afterwards apprehended; when all of them ſteadily denied their guilt; and the hear-ſay teſtimony of Buſh being all that could be adduced againſt them, Nichols was admitted evidence for the crown, in conſequence of which all the particulars of the horrid murder were developed.

The priſoners being brought to trial at the next aſſizes for the county of Surry, Nichols depoſed, that himſelf, with Welch and Jones, having been drinking at the houſe called Sot's-hole, on the night that the woman was uſed in ſuch an inhuman manner, they quitted that houſe, in order to return home, when meeting a woman, they aſked her if ſhe would drink; which ſhe declined, unleſs they would go to the King's Head, where ſhe would treat them with a pot of beer.

Hereupon they went and drank both beer and geneva with her; and then all the parties going forward to the parſonage-walk, the poor woman was treated in a manner too ſhocking to be deſcribed. It appeared that, at the time of the perpetration of the fact, the murderers wore white aprons; and that Jones and Welch called Nichols by the name of Coleman; circumſtances that evidently led to the prior conviction of that unfortunate man.

On

On the whole ſtate of the evidence there ſeemed to be no doubt of the guilt of the priſoners, ſo that the jury did not heſitate to convict them, and ſentence of death paſſed of courſe.

After conviction theſe malefactors behaved with the utmoſt contrition, being attended by the rev. Dr. Howard, rector of St George's, Southwark, to whom they readily confeſſed their offences. They likewiſe ſigned a declaration, which they begged might be publiſhed, containing the fulleſt aſſertion of Coleman's innocence; and, excluſive of this acknowledgment, Welch wrote to the brother of Coleman, confeſſing his guilt, and begging his prayers and forgiveneſs.

The ſiſter of Jones living in the ſervice of a genteel family at Richmond, he wrote to her to make intereſt in his favour: but the anſwer he received was, that his crime was of ſuch a nature, that ſhe could not aſk a favour for him with any degree of propriety. She earneſtly begged of him to prepare for death, and implore a pardon at that tribunal where alone it could be expected.

Welch and Jones were executed at Kennington-common on the 6th of September, 1751.

This ſtory is one of the many in this work, which ought to teach us a due regard to the myſterious diſpenſations of Providence. Coleman was hanged for a crime which he never committed; and at length the real murderers ſuffered for that very crime.

However ſlow the hand of juſtice, it is ſure: it will overtake the guilty in this world or the next: and happy may thoſe think themſelves, however great their ſufferings in this life, who can die with a calm conſcience in the hope of eternal mercy.

The Caſe of SAMUEL HILL, who was hanged for Murder.

THIS malefactor was a native of Buckeridge in Staffordſhire, received a decent education, was apprenticed to a ſhoemaker, and ſerved his time with fidelity.

At the expiration of his ſervitude he came to London, and worked as a journeyman till he had ſaved about ten pounds: and this inſtance of his induſtry and frugality coming to the knowledge of his aunt, who lived at Hawkehurſt in Kent, ſhe bequeathed him fifty pounds by her will.

On the death of the aunt he received the money, married, and commenced buſineſs as a maſter in Kent; where he unfortunately got connected with ſome ſmugglers, who dealt with him for ſhoes, for which they paid him in ſmuggled articles.

This connexion was very pernicious to Hill; for a party of dragoons attacking the ſmugglers, and Hill taking part with the latter, was deſperately wounded. In the end, the ſmugglers were victorious; but Hill, being wounded, was obliged to get on board a cutter, which carried him to France, where he put himſelf under the care of a ſurgeon, and was perfectly cured.

When reſtored to health, he returned to England with a quantity of contraband goods; but the Cuſtom-houſe officers ſoon afterwards attacked him and another ſmuggler, and took them into cuſtody. They continued ſeven months in priſon; and were then releaſed by an order from the Exchequer.

Hill and his aſſociates now bought a quantity of prohibited goods, and proceeded towards London to ſell them: but being attacked by ſeveral Cuſtom-houſe

tom-houſe officers on the Deptford road, an engagement enſued, in which one of the officers was wounded in the leg, and the ſmugglers got off, and ſold their goods in London.

Not long after this, the ſmugglers paid an officer a ſum of money to connive at their proceedings; inſtead of which, he laid an information againſt them; whereupon they pulled down his houſe, to teſtify their revenge. Thence they went to Sandwich, and attempted to land ſome run goods; but a party of dragoons attacking them, one of the ſmugglers was killed on the ſpot, on which the reſt galloped off with the utmoſt precipitation.

Not long after this affair, the officers made an attack on the ſmugglers near Bromley, when one of the latter was wounded, and three horſes were killed belonging to the oppoſite party. The ſmugglers now vowed revenge againſt the Cuſtom-houſe officers, one of whom they ſeized, and, conveying him to the houſe of Hill, treated him, for ten ſucceſſive days, with the utmoſt barbarity.

At length they conſulted whether they ſhould murder the unhappy man; but ſome of them adviſing that he ſhould be ſent to France, he was conveyed to the ſea ſide, and propoſals made to take him on board a cutter: but the maſter of the veſſel, having been formerly puniſhed for receiving a perſon on board in a ſimilar ſituation, refuſed to accept him, unleſs he would declare that it was his free will to go: and this declaration not being made, the ſmugglers beat him ſeverely, and then permitted him to depart.

Soon after this tranſaction, Hill grew tired of his connexion with the ſmugglers, and retired to the practice of his own buſineſs; a circumſtance that exaſperated his late aſſociates to ſuch a degree, that they

they robbed his houſe of effects to a conſiderable amount, and a hundred and fifty pounds in caſh.

Diſtreſſed by this circumſtance, and apprehenſive of farther conſequences, Hill determined not to remain longer in the country, and therefore wrote a letter to his ſiſter in London, who took a houſe for him, whither he removed, and ſoon afterwards buried three children, who had died of the ſmall-pox.

Hill went to viſit a ſmuggler who was confined in Newgate, but had formed a deſign of effecting his eſcape, which he communicated to Hill, and offered him a hundred pounds to aſſiſt him in putting it into execution. The propoſal was, that ſome other ſmugglers ſhould come to Newgate, with offenſive weapons hid under their cloaths, and, having ſeized the keepers, ſhould ſet the priſoners at liberty. Hill endeavoured to engage the ſmugglers to take a part in this affair; but they were too cautious to embark in ſo hazardous an undertaking.

Hill, however, was daring enough to afford aſſiſtance to the priſoner who effected his eſcape, but was not generous enough to give even a ſingle ſhilling to his agent. After this, Hill was promiſed a ſum of money to aſſiſt another ſmuggler in making his eſcape from Newgate; in conſequence of which he did all in his power to forward the plan, but never obtained the leaſt gratuity for his trouble.

Hill's wife dying about this time, he ſeemed to decline all farther thought of acquiring money in a diſhoneſt way; and boarding in the houſe of a widow-woman at Poplar, obtained his living by working as a journeyman at his own buſineſs: but at length he became in debt to his landlady, who ſeized a new ſuit of cloaths for what he owed her.

Exaſperated by this circumſtance, Hill, on the following morning, attempted to wreſt the keys of

the houſe from the woman's hands: but on her making reſiſtance, he ſeized a rope that lay by him, with which he ſtrangled her ſo that ſhe expired immediately. This being done, he robbed the houſe, and put the ſtolen effects on board a boat, which went down the river: but, being purſued, he was ſoon taken, and carried before a magiſtrate, who committed him to Newgate.

Being brought to trial at the next ſeſſions at the Old Bailey, he was capitally convicted, and received ſentence of death; after which he ſubmitted with the utmoſt patience to his fate, confeſſing that he was highly deſerving of the ignominy that his complicated crimes had brought on him.

He was hanged at Tyburn on the 23d of March, 1752, after cautioning the ſurrounding multitude to take warning by his fate.

A few words only will be neceſſary by way of remark on the caſe and fate of this malefactor. His unhappy connexion with the ſmugglers ſeems to have hardened his mind, ſo as to have rendered him capable of the commiſſion of any crime, even of the greateſt.

From his unhappy end, then, we ought to learn to be cautious how we violate the laws of honeſty in the ſmalleſt degree, ſince ſuch violation too often leads to the perpetration of the moſt enormous offences!

Particulars reſpecting JOHN ANDREWS, who was hanged for Forgery.

THIS offender was born in Eſſex, and having commenced grazier ſent a number of cattle to Smithfield market; but after a ſeries of trade in this

this way, he ſailed to the Eaſt Indies, where he acquired a ſufficient ſum to enable him to deal in ſeamen's tickets on his return to England.

This buſineſs, ſufficiently oppreſſive to the poor ſailors, he carried to the height of extortion, and frequently obtained of them fifty per cent. on the advancing money on their tickets. After thus lending money for ſome time, he adventured on the dangerous practice of forging the wills of ſeamen, in order to defraud the widows; and met with a narrow eſcape at Maidſtone, on a charge of publiſhing a forged letter of attorney.

Andrews employed ſome women of his acquaintance in London, to whom he uſed to give ſmall gratuities to perſonate the widows of ſeamen, and by their perjuries he frequently acquired conſiderable ſums of money.

This mode of practice at length brought him to deſtruction, as will appear from the following narrative. Quarrelling with a woman named Elizabeth Nicholls, with whom he was connected, blows enſued, and the woman determined to be revenged; but diſguiſed her ſentiments till ſhe had an opportunity of injuring him in the moſt eſſential manner.

He applied to her on a particular occaſion to perſonate the widow of a ſeaman to whom thirty pounds were due, and to ſwear that ſhe had a will in her favour. The woman, with a view firſt to make an advantage of Andrews, and then to betray him, did as ſhe was directed, and ſigned her name to a forged will in Doctors commons, in conſequence of which Andrews received thirty pounds at the navy office, and became poſſeſſed of the ſeaman's ticket for fourteen pounds.

This ticket he offered for ſale to a man who kept an alehouſe in Oxford-road; but the latter refuſed to buy it, unleſs the woman would ſign the receipt for it, which ſhe readily did, expecting Andrews would give her a good part of the money thus illegally obtained: but on his refuſal to give her more than half a guinea, ſhe determined on immediate revenge.

To carry her ſcheme into effectual execution, ſhe went to another woman with whom Andrews was connected; and, both of them having given information againſt him, he was taken into cuſtody, and lodged in Newgate.

As it was preſumed that his offences had been numerous, the following ſcheme was adopted to find full evidence of his guilt. The lord mayor commiſſioned a perſon who had formerly known him, to go to Newgate, and hint to him that a warrant would be iſſued to ſearch his lodgings. Andrews having papers which he thought it of great conſequence to conceal, deſired his ſuppoſed friend to pack them in a baſket, and leave them with an acquaintance in the Minories.

Hereupon the priſoner gave the man his keys, and he went and packed up the goods, and carried them as directed. This was done to diſcover, if poſſible, whether Andrews had any accomplices: that, if he had, his guilt might be the more clearly aſcertained by procuring ſtrong evidence againſt him.

When the papers were depoſited in the Minories the lord mayor iſſued a ſearch warrant, in conſequence of which his officers found ſixty-four forged wills, and powers of attorney; but no proof aroſe that he had any accomplices, except the women whom he had employed as his agents. One of

theſe

theſe women, however, depoſed that ſhe had received above five hundred pounds for him, by ſwearing to forged wills; but that half a guinea for each perjury was all the gratification ſhe received.

Andrews, who was in poſſeſſion of a conſiderable ſum of money when he was committed to Newgate, had no idea that ſufficient evidence could be adduced of his guilt; but when he was brought to trial, the teſtimony of the two women was ſo poſitive againſt him, that the jury did not heſitate to convict him, and ſentence of death paſſed of courſe.

His behaviour after conviction was remarkably moroſe, reſerved, and untractable. He abſolutely refuſed the good offices of the ordinary of Newgate, which as firſt cauſed a ſuſpicion that he was a Roman catholic; but as he was not viſited by any prieſts of that perſuaſion, this ſuſpicion wore off, and his refuſal was attributed to the obſtinacy and gloom of his own mind.

He refuſed to acknowledge the juſtice of the ſentence by which he was condemned; alledging, in excuſe for his conduct, that having loſt large ſums of money by ſome ſeamen, he was juſtified in endeavouring to make others pay the deficiency.

He ſeemed agitated in the higheſt degree when he was put into the cart on the morning of execution. His whole frame was convulſed: and when at the fatal tree, deſpair ſeemed to have taken poſſeſſion of his ſoul. He only ſaid a ſhort prayer, but refuſed to addreſs the ſurrounding multitude.

He was hanged at Tyburn on the 23d of March, 1752.

The crimes of this man were of the greateſt magnitude; a continued ſeries of fraud and robbery,

ſupported

ſupported by the perjuries of ignorant creatures whom he employed: and it is hardly a breach of charity to ſay that he was equally guilty of thoſe perjuries with the poor wrerches who actually committed them: perhaps more ſo; as his knowledge muſt be ſuppoſed to have been ſuperior to theirs.

If the crime of forgery was leſs enormous than it is, one would think the exceſs of danger attending it, would prevent any man from being guilty of it. Fatal experience, however, too frequently proves the contrary.

Let us hope, however, that the fatal examples of the many unhappy victims to the rigid (and in this caſe neceſſary) juſtice of their country, will have a good effect in future; and that this crime may decreaſe in proportion as, for ſome years paſt, it has unhappily increaſed, to the injury of many an individual, and the utter ruin of many a worthy family.

It is dreadful to reflect on the numbers of widows and orphans who have become ſuch, through the horrid prevalence of this practice; which, as it is generally committed by perſons in a rank of life above the vulgar, it is to be hoped thoſe who may be tempted to the commiſſion of it, will have ſenſe and virtue enough to make the proper uſe of theſe admonitions, and to conſult their own ſafety, while they have a due regard not to infringe the property of their neighbours.

Narrative of the Life and Trial of ANTHONY DE ROSA, who was hanged for Murder.

THIS malefactor was the ſon of an Engliſhman of Portugueſe extraction; but his father going abroad, ſettled in one of the Bermuda Iſlands,

where he married a Portugueſe woman, and Anthony was the firſt child of that marriage.

His father, being at different times maſter of ſeveral veſſels which traded up the Mediterranean, brought his ſon up as a ſeaman, and he continued with him till the death of his father, and when that event happened he engaged himſelf as mate in another veſſel, in which ſtation he continued about two years.

The veſſel putting into the port of Liſbon, De Roſa embarked on board an Engliſh man of war, bound to Ireland, and afterwards to this kingdom. When the ſhip's crew was paid off, he quitted the naval ſervice, lived in an idle manner, and ſupported himſelf ſome time by forging ſeamen's wills and powers. After this he became acquainted with Emanuel De Roſa, and one Fullagar, with whom he combined in the commiſſion of robberies.

On the 11th of June, 1751, Mr. William Fargues, a young gentleman who lived in London, went to dine with his uncle, who kept an academy at Hoxton; and having ſtaid to ſupper, left the houſe about a quarter after ten o'clock, on his return to town.

Between eleven and twelve o'clock on the night the murder was committed, Mr. Hendrop of Hoxton was going home to his houſe when ſeeing two men ſtanding by a perſon lying on the ground, he aſked what was the matter; to which one of them replied, "I believe there is a gentleman murdered." Mr. Hendrop took hold of his hand, and found it warm. He then lifted up the body of the wounded man, who ſeemed to attempt to ſpeak; but was unable. He then obſerved that the body was bloody, and felt ſome blood withinſide the cloaths;

cloaths; on which he went to a public-houſe in the neighbourhood, where meeting ſome men who had a lantern, he returned with them to the ſpot, but the party was then dead, though by the cloaths it was known to be Mr. William Farques; on which the body was carried to the houſe of his uncle.

The coroner took an inquiſition on this occaſion, when the verdict of the jury was "Wilful "Murder by perſons unknown." We have mentioned that this affair happened on the night of the 11th of June; but a diſcovery of the perpetrators of it did not ariſe till above ſix months afterwards.

On the 26th of December, Emanuel De Roſa was apprehended as a diſorderly perſon, and lodged in Bridewell, where the terrors of his conſcience, on the reflection on the murder, were ſo great, that he determined to make a diſcovery of the affair, at once to eaſe his mind, and preſerve his life by becoming an evidence for the crown.

Having informed the keeper of Bridewell of his intention, he then ſent to Anthony De Roſa to come and ſee him; on which he was taken into cuſtody, having in his pocket a knife with which he had ſtabbed the deceaſed.

Emanuel De Roſa having given in his depoſition before a magiſtrate, was admitted an evidence; and when the trial came on at the Old Bailey, he ſwore to the following particulars:

That he had been acquainted with the priſoner about three years, and had been concerned with him in forgery, and defrauding people of money; that the priſoner came to his lodgings near the Maypole in Eaſt Smithfield, about nine o'clock on the night the robbery was committed; that they went

went together to the Minories, where they found Fullagar; when all three of them went down Hownſditch, into Moorfields, towards the Barking-dogs *, where many people were then walking. The priſoner ſaid he wanted money that night, and bade them come along, and not be afraid of any thing. They walked backwards and forwards for ſome time, thinking it was too ſoon to attack any body, as the clock had not then ſtruck ten.

The priſoner ſoon afterwards ſaid, "Let us croſs "over that road," meaning by the Barking-dogs; and the gentleman who was murdered was coming alone in the middle of the path, when the priſoner aſked him for his money. Mr. Farques ſaid "Gentlemen, I have no money for myſelf." Upon this, Fullagar gave him two or three blows on the head with a ſtick, which had a piece of iron on its head. Hereupon the gentleman turned round; on which Fullagar ſtruck him on the back of the head; but, as he did not fall, Anthony De Roſa bade the evidence hold his arm, which he did, and the other drew a knife, and ſtabbed him five or ſix times in the breaſt and body, as faſt as he could repeat the blows; and Fullagar at the ſame time ſtriking him near the ear, he fell againſt the pales. The priſoner and Fullagar now ſearched his pockets, and the former produced eleven ſhillings only.

The murderers now went together to the Nag's-head on Tower-hill, and drank two pots of beer; and there the evidence received two ſhillings as his ſhare of the plunder. About ten o'clock the

* This murder was committed within a few yards of a public-houſe called the Barking-dogs, oppoſite the late Mr. Whitefield's tabernacle.

next morning, the priſoner called on the evidence, and bade him take care of himſelf, for that he and Fullagar were going down to Chatham.

The reader is already apprized of the circumſtance which led to the apprehenſion of Anthony De Roſa, on whoſe trial the knife with which he had ſtabbed Mr. Farques was produced; yet he ſteadily denied the having any concern in the wicked tranſaction, and attempted to ſet up a defence, by endeavouring to prove an *alibi:* for Dorothy Black, and her ſon, ſwore, that on the 11th of June, the priſoner had a cold; and the woman added, that ſhe gave him a ſweat; and that he was not out of her houſe one minute during the whole day and night; and this latter circumſtance was likewiſe ſworn to by the ſon.

No credit, however, was given to the teſtimony of theſe evidences: the jury found the priſoner guilty; and the court directed that Dorothy Black and her ſon ſhould be taken into cuſtody, to be tried for perjury.

At the time of trial the priſoner was exceedingly debilitated by illneſs; but, being conſiderably recovered in about ten days, he was adviſed to make a full confeſſion of the barbarous fact for which his life was ſo ſoon to pay the forfeit; and to conſider the conſequence of dying in the ſolemn atteſtation of a falſehood.

In reply to this ſerious exhortation he ſaid, "I "am as innocent as the child unborn;" and being farther urged on the ſubject, he exclaimed, "Would "you have me own myſelf guilty of what I know "no more of than you do? I know if I be guilty "and deny it, I muſt ſend my ſoul to the bottom "of hell, which I hope I know better than to do."

He was equally obſtinate at the place of execution in denying the fact for which he ſuffered, ſolemnly

ſolemnly declaring to the laſt, that he knew nothing of the matter.

He was hanged at Tyburn, on the 23d of March, 1752.

The horrid nature, and unprovokedneſs of the crime which coſt this man his life, is almoſt without example. To the honour of this country be it remarked, that the inſtances of murder in conſequence of robbery are fewer with us than in moſt of the other kingdoms of Europe; and we hope they will be fewer than they have been.

The ſource of De Roſa's misfortunes appears to have been idleneſs: for, if he had followed the lawful calling in which he was brought up, he might have lived happy in himſelf, and been an uſeful member of ſociety: inſtead of which he was cut off in the prime of life, (for he was only 28 years of age when he ſuffered) and became an object of public contempt and abhorrence.

Of all things, then, let youth avoid idleneſs: let them conſider that induſtry is the road to riches and honour; let them remember and apply the words of the poet:

In works of labour, or of ſkill,
I would be buſy too;
For Satan finds ſome miſchief ſtill
For idle hands to do.

The extraordinary Caſe, Conviction, and Execution, of Captain JAMES LOWRY, who was hanged for Murder.

CAPTAIN Lowry was a native of Scotland, and, having received a liberal education, was, at his own requeſt, apprenticed to the maſter of a

trading veſſel, with whom he ſerved his time faithfully.

After riſing by degrees to the command of a veſſel, he was employed by ſome merchants of Jamaica to conduct a ſhip of theirs to England, and during the voyage, committed the crime which coſt him his life; the particulars of which will be ſeen in the following abſtract of his trial.

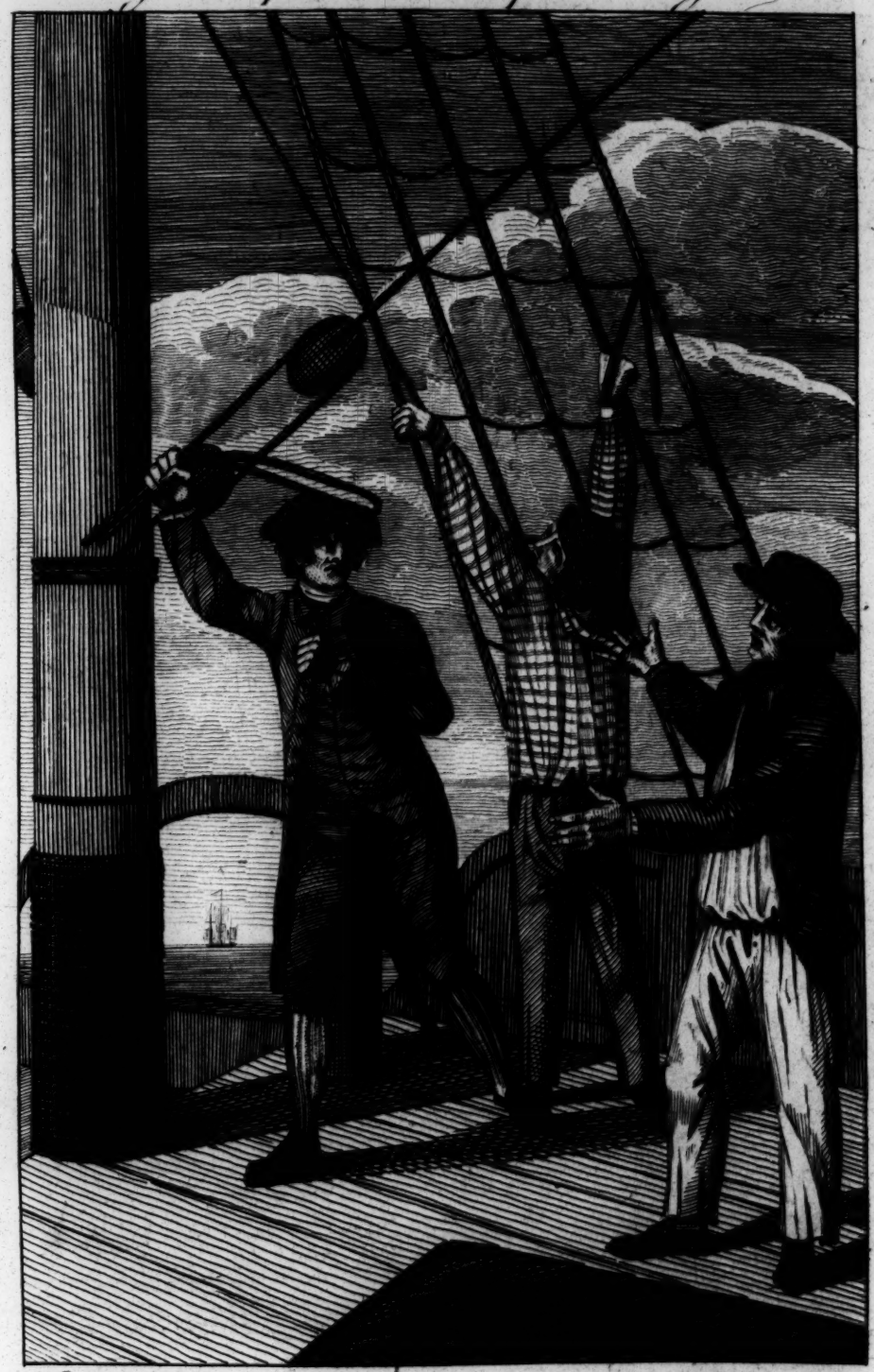
On the 18th of February, 1752, James Lowry was indicted at a ſeſſions of admiralty held at the Old Bailey, for the wilful murder of Kenith Hoſſack.

James Gatherah, mate of the veſſel, depoſed that they left Jamaica on the 28th of October, 1750, having on board fourteen hands: that, on the 24th of December, he came on deck between four and five in the afternoon, and ſaw the deceaſed tied up, one arm to the haulyards, and the other to the main-ſhrouds, when the priſoner was beating him with a rope about an inch and a half in thickneſs. This deponent returning again in half an hour, the priſoner begged to be let down, on a call of nature; the captain being now below, Gatherah obtained his permiſſion to releaſe him for the preſent, but was to tie him up again: but when let down, he was unable to ſtand, which being made known to Lowry, he ſaid "D—n the raſcal, he *ſhams Abra-*"*ham**," and ordered him to be again tied up. This was done; but he was not made ſo faſt as before; which the captain obſerving, ordered his arms to be extended to the full ſtretch, and, taking the rope, beat him on the back, breaſt, head, ſhoulders, face, and temples, for about half an hour, occaſionally walking about to take breath.

* A ſea-term for pretending to be ill, when able to do duty.

About

Engraved for The Malefactor's Register



Vangro delin. *Granger sculp.*

KEN.H HOSSACK *flogged & murdered by* JA.S LOWRY
Captain of a Jamaica Ship.



About ſix o'clock he hung back his head, and appeared motionleſs; on which Lowry ordered him to be cut down, and ſaid to Gatherah, "I am afraid "Kenny is dead." Gatherah replied, "I am "ſorry for it; but hope not." Gatherah then felt his pulſe; but finding no motion there, or at his heart, ſaid "I am afraid he is dead, indeed;" on which the captain gave the deceaſed a ſlap on the face, and exclaimed "D—n him, he is only ſhamming Abraham now."

On this, the deceaſed was wrapped up in a ſail, and carried to the ſteerage, where Lowry whetted a penknife, and Gatherah attempted to bleed him; but without effect. Gatherah depoſed farther, that the deceaſed had been ill of a fever; but was then recovering, and, though not well enough to go aloft, was able to do many parts of his duty.

Gatherah likewiſe depoſed to the tyranny and cruelty of the captain to the whole ſhip's company, except one James Stuart; and gave ſeveral inſtances of his inhumanity, particularly that of his beating them with a cane, which he called "the Royal "Oak Foremaſt."

It was aſked of Gatherah, why Lowry was not confined till the 29th of December, as the murder of Hoffack took place on the 24th; to which he anſwered, that the ſhip's crew had been uneaſy, and propoſed to confine the captain: but that he (Gatherah) repreſented the leaky condition of the ſhip, which made it neceſſary that two pumps ſhould be kept going night and day; and the ſhip's crew were ſo ſickly, that not a hand could be conveniently ſpared: that he believed the captain would be warned by what he had done, and treat the reſt of the crew better during the remainder of the voyage: that Lowry could not eſcape while on the voyage,

and

and that on their arrival in England, he might be charged with the murder before any magiſtrate.

The ſeamen were ſatisfied by theſe arguments: but Lowry continuing his ſeverities, it was determined to deprive him of his command, and confine him to the cabbin. At length the ſhip became ſo leaky, that they did not expect to live from night till morning; and the men quitted the pumps, and took a ſolemn farewel of each other: but Gatherah adviſed them to renew their endeavours to ſave the veſſel, and to ſteer for the port of Liſbon.

This advice was followed; and having arrived off the rock of Liſbon, they hoiſted a ſignal for a pilot, and one coming off in a fiſhing-boat found that they had no product *; on which he declined conducting them into port: but by this pilot the captain ſent a letter to the Britiſh conſul, informing him that the crew had mutinied; on which the conſul came on board, put ten of the ſeamen under an arreſt, and ſent them to England on board a man of war, then bound homewards.

The account given by Gatherah to the conſul correſponded with that he had given in evidence at the Old Bailey. During the voyage the crew of Lowry's ſhip worked their paſſage; and, on their arrival in England, though they were committed to the keeper of the Marſhalſea priſon, they had liberty to go out when they pleaſed; and conſidered themſelves only as evidences againſt Lowry.

The reſt of the crew who were examined on the trial, gave teſtimony correſponding with that of Gatherah; and declared that the deceaſed was ſober and honeſt. Some queſtions were aſked, if they

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* That is, they had no effects to diſpoſe of.

thought

thought Lowry's ill treatment was the occaſion of Hoſſack's death. They ſaid there was no doubt of it; "that it would have killed him had he been in "health and ſtrength, or the ſtouteſt man living."

It may be proper to mention that Lowry, having taken men on board to work his ſhip to England, arrived ſoon after his accuſers; but they having given previous information to the lords of the admiralty, a reward was offered for apprehending him: he remained ſome time concealed; but at length he was diſcovered by a thief-taker, who took him into cuſtody, and received ten guineas from the marſhal of the admiralty.

By way of defence Lowry addreſſed himſelf to the court in the following terms:

—"My Lord, and Gentlemen of the Jury, my "caſe is exceeding hard; the witneſſes that have "been produced againſt me have agreed to ſwear "this murder upon me, well knowing, that if "they do not take away my life, their own will "be in danger; as I hope to make appear. In "October, 1750, I ſet ſail from Jamaica in the "Molly, of which I was commander, with thirteen hands, beſides myſelf, on board; we were "bound for London. I had not been long at ſea, "but I found that I had got a ſet of the moſt "wicked, drunken, idle fellows, that ever came "into a ſhip. I had great apprehenſions that "they intended to run away with the ſhip; and "ſo I told Captain Dalton of the Nancy, who "came from Jamaica with me, and begged he "would keep me company, and obſerve what "courſe we kept: this the witneſs Gatherah "knew, if he would have been honeſt and ſpoke the "truth; but he has ſworn with a halter about "his neck. Often when I awaked, I found they

"had

" had altered the ſhip's courſe while I was aſleep;
" and Gatherah, who was my chief mate, often
" inſulted me, and uſed me ſo very ill, that I was
" obliged to turn him out of my meſs, and forbid
" him my cabbin. Roberts my ſecond mate, hav-
" ing rum, he would ſell it to the men, notwith-
" ſtanding I forbid him often, by which means
" they were ſcarce ever ſober. Our ſhip being
" leaky we were obliged to keep continually pump-
" ing; and ſome of the men being ſick, occaſioned by
" their drinking ſo much rum, I could not but
" be very angry with Roberts, for ſupplying the
" men with ſo much liquor.

" On the 23d day of December, though the
" witneſſes ſwear the 24th, one of the men had
" loſt a bottle of rum, and I was informed the de-
" ceaſed had taken and drunk it; at the ſame time
" William Waum came to me, and complained he
" had loſt a note, and believed that Kenith Hoſ-
" ſack had ſtole it, (though he denies he ſaid it
" now) upon which I called the deceaſed upon
" deck, to examine him, and found he was ſo
" drunk, he was ſcarce able to ſtand, therefore I
" ordered him to be tied to the rails of the ſhip,
" till he was ſober, for, if he had gone down to
" his cabbin, he would have got more rum, and
" ſo endangered his life, he having been ſick with
" drinking before. The deceaſed being a comical
" fellow, I took a bit of rope and flouriſhed it
" three times round, gave him a ſtroke or two
" upon the breech, not ſo hard as to hurt him,
" more than I do this book (ſtriking his hand
" gently on the log-book that lay on the bar): after
" he had been tied ſome time to the rails, he fell
" backwards, and foamed at the mouth: I then
" cut him looſe, and he fell down, and I believe
" his

" his being intoxicated, and ſtruggling to get looſe
" might ſuffocate him. I did all I could to re-
" cover him, as the witneſſes againſt me have al-
" lowed. I was not then charged with murdering
" the deceaſed; nor did I hear any thing of ſuch
" a charge till five or ſix days after Hoſſack's
" death, when they deprived me of the command,
" confined me, ſeized the ſhip, altered her courſe,
" which was for England, and carried her to Liſ-
" bon. I had prepared a letter to ſend aſhore by
" the firſt boat that came on board to the Engliſh
" conſul, informing him of the ſituation I was in;
" who came on board, examined us all, reinſtated
" me in the command of the ſhip, which I
" brought home ſafe to England. The witneſſes
" were ſent home priſoners on board a man of
" war, upon my accuſation of mutiny and pira-
" cy. It cannot be ſuppoſed the conſul would
" have truſted me with the command of the ſhip,
" if I had been under the charge of murder."

After the evidence was recapitulated by the Judge, the Jury retired for about half an hour, and then delivered their verdict that the priſoner was guilty; on which he received ſentence of death, and orders were given for his being hung in chains.

After conviction, Lowry behaved with great apparent courage and reſolution, till a ſmith came to take meaſure of him for his chains; when he fainted away, and fell on his bed, and was meaſured while inſenſible. On his recovery he ſaid that it was the diſgrace of a public expoſure that had affected him, and not the fear of death.

On the morning of his death he ſeemed greatly affected when firſt put into the cart, but ſoon recovering a greater degree of courage, he bore his

calamity with a tolerable ſhare of ſerenity, notwithſtanding the cart was ſurrounded by a number of ſailors, who poured execrations on him, for the barbarity he had ſhewn to one of their brethren.

The proceſſion having reached Execution-dock, he was placed on a ſcaffold erected under the gibbet; when, after a ſhort time ſpent in devotion, he underwent the ſentence of the law, having firſt given the executioner his watch and money.

This Malefactor ſuffered on the 25th of March, 1752, after which his body was put into a boat, carried down the river, and hung in chains on the bank of the Thames.

The fate of this criminal exhibits a ſtriking leſſon of caution againſt the practice of cruelty to our fellow-creatures. Lowry's crimes appear to have ariſen from wanton barbarity, and a hardneſs of heart, from which we ought all to pray to God to defend us.

At the time his crime came to the knowledge of the public, he was the object of univerſal deteſtation; and the phraſe of "ſham Abraham" was common in the mouths of the vulgar. Scarce any criminal has been more the ſubject of converſation, or died leſs pitied, than captain Lowry.—May none of his brethren of the watery element hereafter imitate his example! Great power is lodged in the hands of captains of ſhips; and they ſhould keep a double guard over their own hearts, not to violate that power. There are no men braver than our Britiſh tars; none that ought to be treated with more generous inſtances of humanity.

Thoſe who are tempted (whatever their ſituation in life) to acts of barbarity, ſhould remember that we daily pray to be forgiven our treſpaſſes "as "we forgive thoſe who treſpaſs againſt us;" and they

they ſhould appeal to Heaven, in the words of the poet,

That Mercy I to others ſhew,
That Mercy ſhew to me!

The Caſe of WILLIAM STROUD, who was convicted of Fraud.

THIS offender was well born and educated; but very early in life took to little tricks of cheating, which ſufficiently marked his character. When but a ſchool-boy he uſed to purloin blank leaves from the books of his companions, and was remarkable for robbing them of their marbles.

This diſpoſition continued while he was an apprentice; and at length he embarked in buſineſs for himſelf; but he had not been long a maſter, before he conſidered trade as a drudgery; on which he ſold off his ſtock, took lodgings in Bond-ſtreet, and aſſumed the character of a fine gentleman.

He now lived in a moſt expenſive manner, ſupplying the extravagances of women of ill-fame; which ſoon reducing him to indigent circumſtances, he fixed on a plan of defrauding individuals; for which purpoſe he got credit with a taylor for ſome elegant ſuits of apparel, took a genteel houſe, and put ſome ſervants into livery; by which he impoſed himſelf on the public as a man of a large eſtate.

An extenſive credit, and a ſplendid mode of living, was the conſequence of his elegant appearance; but ſome tradeſmen bringing in bills which he was equally unable and unwilling to diſcharge, he ſold off his houſehold furniture, and privately decamped.

He now took handſome lodgings in Bloomſbury; and, dreſſing himſelf in velvet cloaths, he pretended to be the ſteward of a nobleman of high rank. He likewiſe took a houſe in Weſtminſter, in which he placed an agent, who ordered in goods as for the nobleman; and the tradeſmen who delivered theſe goods were directed to leave their bills for the examination of the ſteward; but the effects were no ſooner in poſſeſſion, than they were ſold to a broker, to the great loſs of the reſpective tradeſmen.

Stroud uſed to travel into the country in ſummer, and having learnt the names of London traders with whom people of fortune dealt, he uſed to write in their names for goods; but conſtantly meeting the waggons that conveyed them, generally received the effects before they reached the places to which they were directed.

It would be endleſs to mention all the frauds of which he was guilty. London and the country were equally laid under contribution by him: and jewellers, watchmakers, lacemen, taylors, drapers, upholders, ſilverſmiths, ſilk-mercers, hatters, hoſiers, &c. were frequent dupes to his artifices.

It was impoſſible for a man, proceeding in this manner, to evade juſtice. He was at length apprehended as a common cheat, and commi'ted to the Gatehouſe, Weſtminſter. On his examination, a coach-maker charged him with defrauding him of a gilt chariot; a jeweller, of rings to the amount of a hundred pounds; a taylor, of a ſuit of velvet trimmed with gold; a cabinet-maker, of ſome valuable goods in his branch; and ſeveral other tradeſmen, of various articles.

The grand jury having found bills of indictment againſt him, he was tried at the Weſtminſter ſeſſions,

ſions, when full proof of his guilt ariſing, he was ſentenced to be kept in Bridewell to hard labour for ſix months; and in the mean time to be publickly whipped ſix times, through different ſtreets.

This ſentence paſſed in March, 1752, and was rigorouſly inflicted; but not too much ſo, when we conſider the nature and number of the crimes of which he had been guilty.

Our laws have, by many people, been thought too ſevere; perhaps with reſpect to a common defrauder they are not ſevere enough. A perſon who ſteals to a ſmall value, in a ſhop or dwelling-houſe, if he be indicted for *privately* ſtealing, receives judgment of death; and we have had many inſtances of execution ſucceeding ſuch conviction; whereas the ſentence of the law is much more mild againſt the common defrauder; though his crime, in the eye of reaſon, be greatly ſuperior to the other.

Perhaps the wiſdom of the legiſlature has intended to diſcriminate between the obtaining goods by defraud, or in the way of trade, which is only debt: and indeed ſome apparent frauds approach ſo near to honeſt debt, and ſome debts to intentional defraud, that there is equal ſagacity and humanity in the diſtinction.

Happy would it be, if we could always diſtinguiſh the oppreſſed honeſt man from the deliberate villain! Human laws, however wiſely framed, muſt be imperfect; and we muſt wait, for a full explanation of apparent myſteries, to the great day, which ſhall ſhew us the final conſummation of all things!

At the cloſe of this narrative, it may not be improper to take notice of thoſe arts of *ſwindling* by

by which ſuch numbers of honeſt tradeſmen have been defrauded, and the moſt atrocious of villains preyed on the public credulity.

It is the practice of theſe abandoned miſcreants to act in concert: one of them hires a houſe, and appears as a merchant of great credit and importance; while his accomplices get credit of any one who is weak enough to truſt them, and give bills on the ſuppoſed merchant. Theſe bills are generally received without ſuſpicion; for previous enquiry having been made reſpecting the character and circumſtances of the merchant, no doubt of either remains; and theſe impoſtors proceed for a long time, undetected.

Among the number of theſe atrocious offenders, the Jews have been principally concerned; and it is not unfrequently that a Jew-merchant is the acceptor of the falſe bills *; but the acceptor is never to be found when the day of payment arrives.

The priſon of the King's Bench has been a wonderful ſeminary for the education of ſwindlers; and many perſons, even while under confinement, have ſupported themſelves, and lived in a ſtyle of unuſual elegance, by this illicit practice: and we are ſorry to ſay, that after their clearance from impriſonment by the favour of acts for relief of inſolvent debtors, ſome of them have ſoon found their way into the ſame priſon, and repeated their former ſtrange mode of obtaining ſubſiſtence by the arts of fraud and chicanery.

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* In ancient times Jews have been expelled the kingdom; and in other inſtances, ſuch taxes have been laid on them as were almoſt equal to an expulſion. It is pity this practice does not yet prevail, as theſe people are the moſt flagrant encouragers of thieves, by the reception of ſtolen goods.

Within

Within a few years, there has been eſtabliſhed a ſociety of tradeſmen, for the preſervation of their property againſt the arts of theſe inſidious people. They meet at a coffee-houſe in the Strand, and ſubſcribe a ſmall annual ſum for the ſupport of each other, againſt the deſigns of ſome of the moſt abandoned people in the univerſe; nor do we hear that, ſince the eſtabliſhment of the ſociety, any one of its members has been defrauded: and even if he had been, ſo prudently have they managed their affairs, ſo excellent is their plan, that it would have been impoſſible for the defrauder to have eſcaped detection for any conſiderable time.

This evinces the propriety of tradeſmen uniting in the defence of each other, againſt men abandoned of all principle, and totally loſt to all thoſe generous ſentiments, thoſe honeſt regards to the rule of right, which diſtinguiſh the fair trader from the ſecret and lurking villain.

Particular caſes excepted, the plain path of honour is the readieſt road to riches; nor do thoſe, who deviate from it, find any ſatisfaction; on the contrary, all their hopes of riches, all their flattering ſchemes of grandeur, are blaſted in the bud; and perhaps within a ſingle day after they are rolling in their ſplendid chariots, or figuring away at the opera, they find themſelves in a loathſome priſon, deſtitute of the common comforts of life, and loaded with ignominious chains!

Would any man, then, in his ſenſes, give up all his better hopes, all his fairer proſpects, merely for the ſake of becoming a villain? Surely no—Common ſenſe dictates to us, that the great rule of right is the plain path to happineſs; and even when wickedneſs (as ſometimes, through the wiſe permiſſion of Providence) proves apparently proſpe-

rous in this life, the bed of the wicked muſt be a bed of thorns; perpetually anxiety muſt corrode his breaſt; and he muſt wait, amidſt all his apparent ſplendor and gaiety (falſe ſplendor, and ill-aſſumed gaiety!) the arrival of that dreadful, that thrice-important hour, when he muſt render an account of all that he has done in this life. A true account! and this truth will be compelled from his guilty conſcience!—when no arts, no ſubterfuges (much as he may have boaſted of them) will be found to avail him, but the truth will be apparent to ſurrounding men and angels!

Is not this conſideration ſufficient to ſtrike terror into the guilty breaſt? Is it not ſufficient to deter from the practice of the arts of chicanery?

Poſſibly not: there may be ſome ſo loſt to all *future* conſiderations, as to regard only the *preſent* moment. Theſe ſhould learn, that our laws have provided puniſhments (if not adequate puniſhments) for every crime: and no man can violate thoſe laws without being in momentary danger of detection and puniſhment.

A man who calls himſelf the count de Naſſau de Dietz, had long reigned a notorious defrauder in this kingdom. His artifices were numerous, and frequently ſucceſsful. He for a conſiderable time laid ſnares for others, but is at length fallen in his own: and is now * on board one of the ballaſt-lighters on the Thames.

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* Written in November, 1778.

END OF THE THIRD VOLUME.

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